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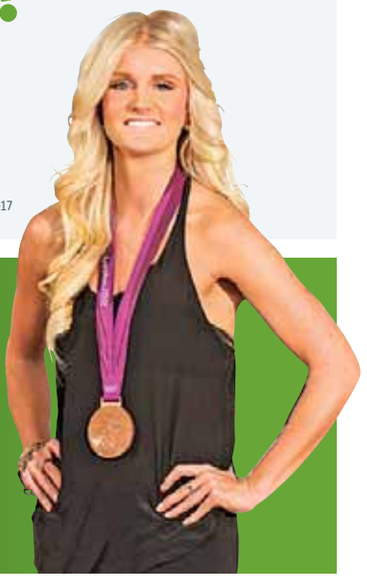

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Funding chop threatens police teams

Alberta law enforcement. Worry mounts as province grapples with $6-billion revenue shortfall

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Calgary police are on high alert over the looming end of a federal funding program that could threaten dozens — and possibly even hundreds — of specialized law-enforcement jobs in Alberta.

In 2008, the federal Conservatives announced $42.4 million in funding for provincial police as part of an officer-recruitment fund aimed at bringing on 2,500 officers across Canada.

The province used the funding to establish the bulk of the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT), Calgary police spokesperson Kevin Brookwell said.

ALERT tackles serious and organized crime and has seized more than $8 million in cash, nearly 800 kilograms of drugs and 350 firearms from Alberta criminals since its inception, the organization's website says.

But reports from Ottawa suggest that funding will run dry next month, prompting questions about whether ALERT will remain intact and who will fund it.

"If everybody says, 'We can't afford it, we can't afford it' … all the initiatives and everything being done by ALERT, we would end up losing," Brookwell said.

Chief Rick Hanson of the Calgary police recently learned more details about the funding chop while attending a conference in Montreal, Brookwell said.

Hanson could not be reached for comment on Thursday but did offer a brief overview on a local morning news show.

"There's going to be a trickle-down effect," he said. "Anytime there's talk about trimming budgets and cuts like that, we're concerned."

What remained unclear was how many positions could be lost and how urgently a new funding source would be needed.

Provincial spokesperson Jason Maloney said future funding for ALERT would be considered before the release of the 2013-14 Alberta budget, but Brookwell said word from Ottawa is that the matter will have to be dealt with sooner than that.

As well, the province says 83 positions could be affected, but Hanson suggested it would in fact be more in the neighbourhood of 250.

ANOTHER ROAD WIN

Calgary Flames goalie Leland Irving jumps over the Columbus Blue Jackets' Matt Calvert while protecting the net during the third period of Thursday's NHL game in Columbus, Ohio. The Flames won 4-3 in overtime. Story, page 39.
JAY LAPRETE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Shooting

Second-degree murder charges laid in Tuxedo Park death

Murder charges have been laid against a Calgary man in connection to another man who was found dead in a vehicle Monday.

Christopher Michael Burr, 24, of Calgary is facing one count of second-degree murder and appeared in court Thursday morning.

Earlier this week, police discovered the body of Calgarian Duane Gordon Laybourne, 42, in a vehicle in a back alley in the northeast community of Tuxedo Park.

Investigators believe the death is drug-related and are still working to identify anyone else who may have been in the home at the time of the shooting. METRO

Budget problems

Redford announces MLA wage freeze

Premier Alison Redford announced a salary freeze for MLAs, as she continues to pressure the province's public servants to do the same.

Redford announced that upcoming increases for cost-of-living and housing allowances would be put on hold as the government continues to deal with budget problems.

"It would be absolutely absurd for MLAs to even be considering any kind of increase, when we as government are taking about the tough choices that have to be made," said Redford.

The provincial budget release is set for March 7.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Making sure emergency communications workers are taking only urgent calls may force the province to levy a fee, the municipal affairs minister says. METRO FILE

Repeat 911 abusers could face fees

$1-million problem. Campaign has done little to stop non-emergency calls in Calgary

JEREMY NOLAIS
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One gentleman called 911 because the local Tim Hortons ran out of his favourite doughnut.

Another griped to an emergency-call taker about how his Subway sandwich artist forgot the mayo.

Others have called to ask for directions, about the weather and even how to file their taxes. Each call ties up resources and costs the City of Calgary alone an estimated $1 million annually.

But as Municipal Affairs Minister Doug Griffiths offered more details on new 911 legislation he plans to table this spring, he said the province is also eyeing a fee for those who repeatedly tie up emergency phone lines with less-than-urgent inquiries.

"It's something we're going to have to explore with the telecom (industry), but maybe you get a warning the first time, but then if you call 911 again to ask about the weather, maybe you're charged a $10 fee," Griffiths said. "At some point, you have got to help people learn and if an advertising campaign doesn't work, a bill sure does."

Quoted

"At some point, you have got to help people learn, and if an advertising campaign doesn't work, a bill sure does."

Municipal Affairs Minister Doug Griffiths

The City of Calgary did launch an awareness campaign in April 2011 encouraging residents to lock their cellphones and prevent 911 pocket-dialling.

But Kirk McCallum, commander of public-safety communications for the city, said the average of 300 false 911 calls fielded each day hasn't diminished.

The province has already made it clear it intends to establish fines — or potentially even criminal charges — for those who maliciously tie up phone lines. Griffiths deemed callers one level down from that 911 "abusers" and said that's where a small fine could be slapped on the aforementioned doughnut lover or tardy tax filer.

"It's not that it's malicious, but what a waste of resources," he said.

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Joffrey Reynolds
JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex tells trial CFL player tried to choke her

The former girlfriend of a one-time Canadian Football League all-star testified Thursday that he tried to choke and smother her when she came home and found him in her bed.

Kaitlin Ward, 27, testified she dated Calgary Stampeders running back Joffrey Reynolds for six years before ending their relationship in December 2011 after discovering he had been cheating on her.

She said they were still friends and were trying to determine if they could "salvage" their relationship when she allowed him to stay with her for a couple days last July after his house went into foreclosure.

Ward said she told Reynolds he had to get out while the two were at a party put on by Stamps receiver Nik Lewis at a bar. She said Reynolds got angry and kicked her in the back of the leg.

When she went home later, she said, he was waiting for her.

"I was shocked," said Ward. "I went by the front door to shoo him out. That's when he kind of tackled me."

Ward told Judge Brian Stevenson that Reynolds was sitting on top of her.

"He's smothering my mouth and choking me. Shoving his chin into my neck," she said softly. "I was gasping for air at that point."

Ward said Reynolds was yelling at her while he had his hands around her neck.

"He said: 'You're not so tough now that you're alone. What are you going to do?'" she said.

Reynolds pulled her to her feet by her hair and then knocked her to the floor again, Ward testified.

"He ... started choking me again."

She said Reynolds started to calm down when she told him he could stay with her and they went to bed.

She texted her friends the next morning that she needed to get out of the house and then left, telling Reynolds she was going to get some makeup to cover the marks on her neck.

Reynolds was charged with assault causing bodily harm, common assault and breaking and entering with intent.

Reynold's lawyer, Randi Collins, questioned the injury to Ward's back and suggested her client was at the condo and falling asleep when Ward arrived home and started yelling at him. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Robbed shooting-centre owner fears justice won't be served

Missing. 30 handguns remain unaccounted for after Oct. robbery

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Police have charged two men and issued an arrest warrant for a third, for a robbery of the Calgary Shooting Centre last year. However, 30 firearms have yet to be recovered.

One of the centre's owners said Thursday he believes it will only be a matter of time before those responsible are free to walk the streets again.

"I have every expectation that they will be out on the street, breaking into other people's stores or houses in the next couple of years," said James Bachynsky. "They should be coming out of jail with a walker, and breaking and entering shouldn't be an option."

Police Staff Sgt. Dale Flemming said all three suspects were known to police and it's believed a total of 37 handguns were stolen for the purpose of trafficking last October.

Cole Emery Trahan is being sought by police. CONTRIBUTED/CALGARY POLICE

"The remaining 30 weapons ... are of great concern to the Calgary Police Service and we continue to maintain a vigilance on those outstanding 30 weapons," he said, adding the firearm serial numbers have been added to a national database.

Bachynsky said while he believes the guns were taken for criminal purposes, some of them were antiques and only able to carry one round at a time.

"In all likelihood, they (the antiques) ended up at the bottom of the river so they could get some other guns that they can shoot people with," he said.

The Calgary Shooting Centre has upgraded its security since the break-in, but Flemming said the establishment had already taken proper measures to safeguard its firearms.

Flemming said he has cooperated fully with the investigation. "It is not believed that any of the three defendants were known to the business," he said.

Charges

- Two men, Craig Albert Rodrigues, 42, and Christopher John Miller, 36, have been charged in connection with the Calgary Shooting Centre robbery, and police have issued Alberta-wide warrants for another man, Cole Emery Trahan, 27.
- Staff Sgt. Dale Flemming said it's believed Trahan is still in the Calgary area. He's described as five-foot-eight, 160 lbs. with blue eyes and brown hair styled in a "faux hawk."

Police Staff Sgt. Dale Flemming addresses reporters after announcing two men have been arrested and charged in connection with the robbery of the Calgary Shooting Centre last year. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Nellie's Cosmic Cafe on 17th Avenue S.W. was closed briefly by Alberta Health Services. CYNTHIA BIGRIGG/FOR METRO

Nellie's future uncertain after sewer backup

Nellie's Cosmic Cafe. Breakfast restaurant cleared to reopen, but owner isn't ready yet

Thinking it over

"I probably would have (reopened) had there not been the media blitz... Because there is, I just want to take my time and evaluate the entire situation."

Roxanne Taylor-King, owner of Nellie's Cosmic Cafe

KATIE TURNER
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Despite being given the green light to reopen after a sewage backup, the owner of Nellie's Cosmic Cafe said she's taking time to re-evaluate before flipping over the open sign.

A closure notice posted by Alberta Health Services appeared outside the 17th Avenue breakfast restaurant on Wednesday, but according to the supervisor of the safe-food program for the Calgary zone, the situation has since been rectified.

"Sewage of any kind of form in a food establishment poses an unacceptable risk to the public, so in these circumstances we usually do an immediate closure because of the risk of fecal contamination," said Sarah Nunn.

"The inspector has been down to do the re-inspection today (Thursday), and all of the work that we asked to be done has been completed, so the facility has been re-opened."

However, Nellie's owner Roxanne Taylor-King said she plans to keep the doors closed for now and will meet staff on Friday to determine the restaurant's next steps.

The Nellie's restaurant chain has been under the scrutiny of Alberta Health Services in the past, with Taylor-King being fined more than $60,000 for several violations.

"Everyone was really feeling pretty shocked about what had happened yesterday," she said. "I know my track record is not perfect — this was something totally beyond my control."

WITH FILES FROM JEREMY NOLAIS

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Minister's letter to teachers catches many off guard

Funding. Teachers on high alert as $6-billion provincial budget gap looms, says association president

JEREMY NOLAIS
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In an emailed letter to Alberta teachers, the provincial education minister says he's keen on opening new lines of communication. But some were baffled by his actions and others went so far as to chalk it up as propaganda Thursday.

A statement sent to teachers late Wednesday and obtained by Metro features Minister Jeff Johnson encouraging teachers to email him directly with any concerns or comments about the current state of Alberta education.

"It's my goal to make sure that as we move through this difficult budget time we are investing our limited dollars in the programs that are critical to ensuring the success of our kids, that we are protecting class sizes and inclusion funding as well as jobs for teachers to the greatest extent possible," Johnson said in the letter.

"You have told me that's what is important to you and I am listening."

The Alberta Teachers' Association said Thursday it was the first time an education minister has taken such a step.

Curiosity over the letter came on the tail end of a tense week between the ATA and province as details came to light that the concept of legislating a new teachers contract was being broached in meetings with school boards across the province.

Collective bargaining on a provincewide deal broke down in December, but ATA president Carol Henderson said a government-mandated contract threatened relationships between teachers and boards.

ATA response

On Thursday, Alberta Teachers' Association president Carol Henderson said she wasn't sure of the motive behind Education Minister Jeff Johnson's email to teachers.

- "I'm hearing from some teachers who are very puzzled where the minister got their email address and why he's contacting them. If teachers want that direct access with the minister and are giving him that email personally, that's just fine with us ... I hope he's not trying to circumvent the ATA. We are the official spokesperson for our members."

Education Minister Jeff Johnson, seen in this undated photo, said a conversation with teachers in Lac La Biche made him realize the need to communicate more openly with Alberta educators. CONTRIBUTED

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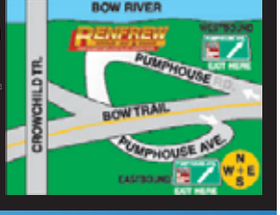

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New council to oversee homelessness plan

A new group that includes the director of Calgary's Drop-In Centre will continue the battle to end homelessness in Alberta, the province announced on Thursday.

Premier Alison Redford attended the first meeting of the inter-agency council that will oversee Alberta's 10-year plan to get the homeless off the streets.

The Drop-In centre is on the new council. METRO FILE

Debbie Newman, executive director of the Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre, was included on the council and attended the meeting, a Drop-In spokesman said.

Redford said the province asked for input from groups and agencies working with the homeless, because people on the ground know best.

"You have tremendous insight into how we in government can do a better job," she said.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO IN EDMONTON, WITH FILES FROM ROBSON FLETCHER

HIGHER TAXES DON'T SEEM THAT SCARY TO ME

IN DEFENCE OF
Mike Morrison
calgary@metronews.ca

Unless you've been living under a rock, you know that the Alberta government is in trouble. It's clear that Premier Alison Redford and her merry MLAs have blown through a lot of money — though the number is disputed — and now we're left with a deficit the size of Drumheller, i.e., a big hole.

In what would seem an attempt to work with Albertans on rectifying the situation, last week the government launched budgetchoice.com, a website that is supposedly going to help Redford create the next budget. Albertans have been asked to make their own budget and decide on their own cuts. It's like a real-life SimCity without the random alien attacks.

Death and taxes

Of course, no one likes the idea of raising taxes, but here's something I learned when I started high school bald: Life isn't fair.

A wade through the website shows it's obviously skewed to help Albertans come to the same conclusion that the government likely already has. Small cuts aren't going to help, and the only way to get out of the financial trouble we're in in is to raise taxes.

Of course, no one likes the idea of raising taxes, but here's something I learned when I started high school bald: Life isn't fair.

So here we are, on the brink of raising taxes. I think I'm fine with it.

For too many years, Alberta has been relying on oil and gas revenues to cover government expenses. Meanwhile, other governments in Canada rely mostly on tax revenue. I never went to economics school, but to base an entire economy on a commodity seems awfully dangerous, doesn't it?

Wouldn't raising taxes by a percentage point or two likely reduce the chances that education and health care will face even more cuts? Let's be honest: Any more education cuts and our kids may be forced to go to one-room schoolhouses.

And who would be upset about a tax increase? The rich. Great. Tax them more. Aren't they the ones who have benefited the most from this province's resources? I'm generalizing here but perhaps they'd be less disposed to education cuts if their kids actually attended public schools.

For too long, the rich have held this province hostage, and what have they done for us? I mean, besides turning Mount Royal into a merry-go-round-esque maze with countless roundabouts and one-way streets. Actually, did you know that if the government raised the tax rate by a mere four percentage points on those with an annual income of more than $250,000, it would net the province more than $500 million? And a one percentage-point increase to corporate taxes would bring in an extra $420 million.

No one likes taxes, but an introduction of a two per cent sales tax would raise $2 billion and, even better, we'd still have the lowest taxes in Canada.

Don't let taxes scare you, especially when you consider what's at risk.

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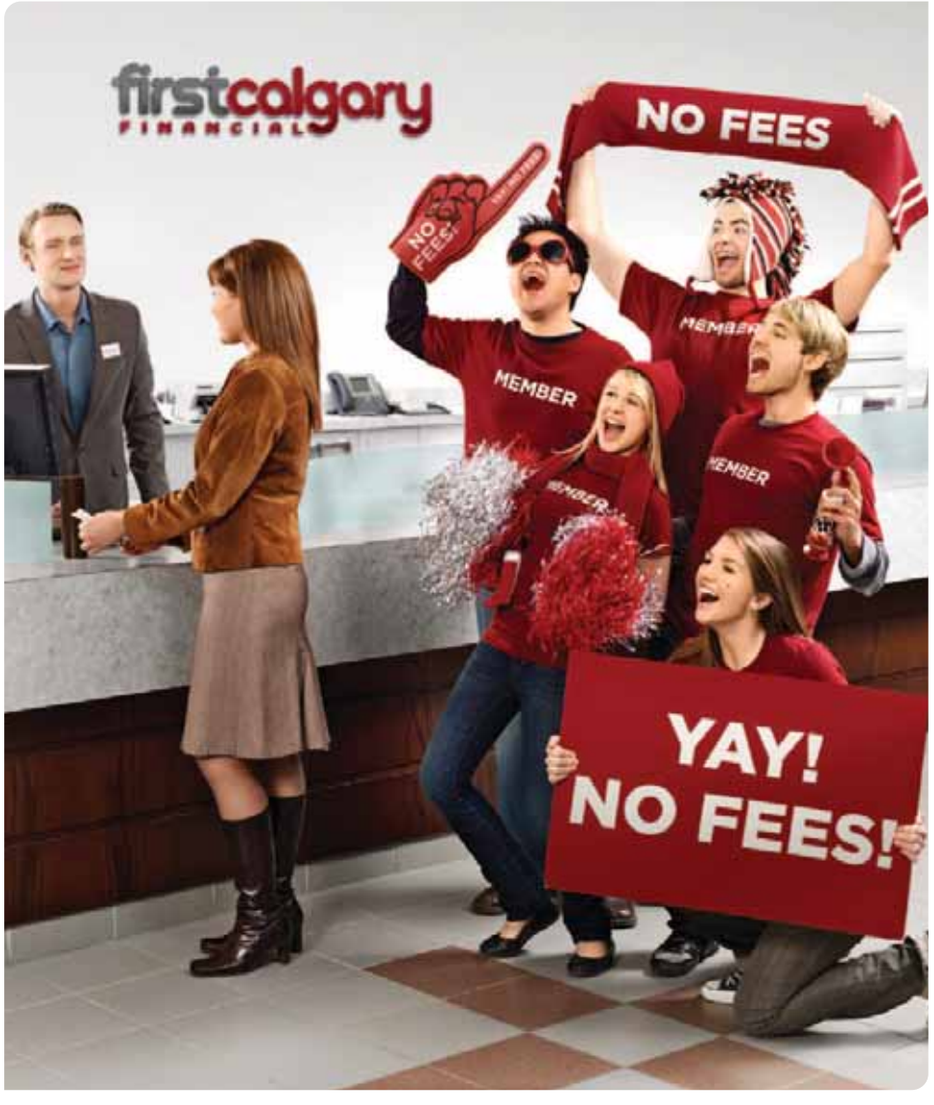

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You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

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Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority
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Valentine's Day is coming next week, to the thrill of some and the chagrin of others. But the so-called most romantic day of the year doesn't have to be all about flowers and chocolates. High Five looks at ways you can deal with Valentine's Day whether you're in a relationship or not

LISA WILTON
lisa.wilton@metronews.ca

5 things to do this V-Day

1 Yoga

Partner yoga can be a beautiful, heart-opening experience, which can help couples reconnect emotionally. The playful nature of partner yoga will heat up your relationship off the mat. For single people, a good yoga session can ease anxiety and frustration and bring focus inwards, resulting in improved mental and physical health.

2 Go to the spa

What's more romantic than spending time with your significant other getting your toenails cut and dry-heel cracks treated?

A lot of things, actually. Still, Oasis Wellness Centre and Spa in Mount Royal Village is the perfect place to mix romance and relaxation with a muscle-melting couples massage. A manipedi, massage and facial are also great ways for singletons to congratulate themselves for not having to deal with Valentine's Day.

3 Cantos tour

Take a musician-led tour of the Cantos Music Foundation's amazing collection of pianos, keyboards, organs and other instruments. The tour features a screening of Harold Lloyd's 1921 silent film, I Do, accompanied by a live performance by Chris Maric on the Kimball Theatre organ.

4 Wine tasting

Whether you're single or in a relationship, throwing a wine-tasting party is a great way to enjoy an all-inclusive Valentine's Day. Invite some of your closest friends and ask them to bring bottles of their favourite wines.

Alternatively, a night of testing out weird and wonderful international beers can be just as fun.

5 Dinner at Cilantro

The 17th Avenue restaurant has been around for almost 25 years and is considered one of the most romantic dining rooms in the city. Unfortunately, its amazing patio isn't open yet, but the intimate setting indoors sets the mood in which to gaze longingly into each other's eyes.

Dining alone? No problem. Saddle up to the bar and chat with one of the friendly bartenders.

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Mr. Baird goes to Washington

Cross-border relations. Canada first on the list to meet with America's new secretary of state

John Baird will be the first foreign minister to sit down with America's newest secretary of state on Friday when he meets with John Kerry at the U.S. State Department to discuss an array of bilateral and international issues.

The two men will "discuss ways to deepen co-operation in the extensive Canada-U.S. relationship," including efforts to streamline trade and travel at the border, department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said Thursday.

Kerry, who was officially sworn in on Wednesday, insisted that he meet first with Canada's foreign minister.

"The secretary felt very strongly that our Canadian neighbour and ally should come first," Nuland said.

In a statement, Baird said he was looking forward to working with Kerry "to find new ways to create jobs, growth and opportunity on both sides of our shared border."

Nuland wouldn't bite on questions about who might become America's next ambassador to Canada. Several names are being bandied about by prognosticators in Canada-U.S. circles, including that of Caroline Kennedy. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird takes part in a press conference in the House of Commons in Ottawa on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Keystone pipeline

- Nuland said TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline will almost certainly be a key topic of conversation on Friday. The State Department will make the ultimate decision on Keystone because it crosses an international border.

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Saska-BOOM!

Province is Canada's economic Kevlar vest

While most of the country is feeling economically crunched, with fewer job opportunities and budgets blanketed in red, Saskatchewan is booming.

It's a boom that could help protect the country against a shaky global economy.

"We have what the world wants right now, not just with respect to natural resources, but also in terms of agriculture," said Premier Brad Wall.

Wall highlights a 7.7 per cent growth in exports — the highest rate of growth in the country between November 2011 and November 2012 — saying the province is blessed to rely on multiple resources rather than just one. Currently, Saskatchewan is a major producer of potash, uranium, oil and natural gas, and is a world leader in pulse crops.

In late 2012 the Conference Board of Canada reported that Saskatchewan is poised to have the fastest-growing economy in 2013 and 2014, which boils down to two things: more money and more jobs.

"It's a great quality of life here," said Wall. "When you take a look at the rest of the country, it's very competitive from a cost-of-living standpoint, and there are jobs here that we can offer and jobs that are available right now."

With growth comes growing pains — which Wall said his government is working on keeping to a minimum by way of major investments in infrastructure and appropriate tax exemptions.

Perhaps most important is that the boom is nowhere near slowing down.

"It's continuing.... That's the first thing other Canadians should know: that this is real what's happening here in Saskatchewan," said Wall.

JANE CAULFIELD/METRO IN SASKATOON

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For many Canadians, Saskatchewan is a 'fly-over' province, its sparsely populated countryside and (mostly) But Saskatchewan is maturing — and darn if she isn't filling out nicely. Here's a grain elevator full of reasons

SUDDENLY SEXY SAS

Rural allure

Fresh as a daisy — dukes, that is, and just as cheeky

You know what they say. Country is so hot right now, and they're not just talking about the sunny summers in the Prairies. Daisy dukes and cowboy boots may have made their pop-culture comeback, but they never went out of style in Saskatchewan.

Baby, you can drive my car

Just call 'em sugar daddy

Saskatchewan ain't no scrub. You know the old joke about cash being the ultimate aphrodisiac? Well, Saskatchewan is well on its way to becoming the sugar-daddy province, with its high employment, high levels of business ownership and luxury shopping to match, like Saskatchewan's first Porsche dealership.

Hot as all get out

A future so bright, it needs shades

An international spotlight has been shining down on this province's sizzling talent, like soccer dynamo Kaylyn Kyle, pictured here, who claimed bronze at the 2012 Olympics, and Saskatoon rockers The Sheepdogs. And keep an eye on up-and-coming folk-rockers Young Benjamins. Nothing's sexier than young blood.

She digs football

She's into the game: A fantasy come true

Hey guys, you know how you've always wanted a girlfriend who'd watch a football game? Well Saskatchewan women — and not just Roughriders fans — will also pick up the ball. The province boasts the 2012 champs of the Western Women's Canadian Football League. And these ladies are serious, forgoing the cutesy lingerie.

Baby, it's warm inside

Staying stoked all night long is what they do best

During the harsh Prairie winters there's nothing better than staying inside and keeping each other warm. While the methods of escaping severe winds and cold temperatures vary, it usually involves a fireplace, some sultry tunes and a 12 of Pilsner.

Wheat champ

1911

Rosthern farmer Seager Wheeler wins first of five world wheat championships with his entry of Marquis at the New York Land Show. He soon develops new varieties of barley, wheat and oats.

Hockey broadcast

1923

Saskatchewan's first radio station, CKCK Regina, airs one of the world's first live broadcasts of a pro hockey game: the Regina Capitals vs. the Edmonton Eskimos.

Marketing giant

1924

Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited (a.k.a. Saskatchewan's Wheat Pool) becomes the largest co-operative marketing organization in the world.

Pumped on natural gas

1934

Saskatchewan's first successful natural-gas well, Discovery No. 1, near Lloydminster, inaugurates the era of commercial production in the province that continues to this day.

Uranium rules

1952

The province's first major oil field is discovered and EMRL begins uranium production. The oil pumps for 40 years; uranium production marks the beginning of a 50-year reign as world's largest uranium producer.

Plentiful potash

1962

The potash mine at Esterhazy, which would become the world's largest, starts producing in earnest thanks to the Blairmore Ring, a technology that prevents mine-shaft flooding, which had stalled previous efforts.

flat landscape having long been the butt of jokes. why the province is now the object of hungry eyes

KATCHEWAN

IMAGE OF KYLE WITH PORSCHE: ELECTRIC UMBRELLA / BACKGROUND PRAIRIE IMAGE: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES / PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

They've got the nightlife

Brew pubs & bars & nightclubs — oh yeah!

Sure, sure — in Saskatchewan you may think it's all farming and no play, but with brew pubs, bars, nightclubs, concert venues and restaurants cropping up all over the place, they're defying the notion that they don't know how to party.

Growing culture

Great big art throb

Saskatchewan takes its art seriously. Local talent is fiercely supported by the citizens of the province, which has encouraged musicians, performers and visual artists to put down roots. And the Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan, slated to begin construction in Saskatoon in March, will feature a collection of original Picassos that is sure to wow and inspire.

Big on all outdoors

Rockin' the rugged wilderness

Do you like a certain lumberjack quality in your significant other? If so, then look no further than the frontiersmen and women of Saskatchewan. Many have been braving the untamed wilderness on boats, skis and snowmobiles since they were no taller than a stalk of wheat. **JEFF MACKEY/METRO IN REGINA**

Five things you didn't know about Saskatchewan

1 Rider pride. Most passionate fans

Riders merch accounts for approximately 70 per cent of all CFL sales. Why wouldn't you want your toothbrush, baby's onesie and golf tees in green and white?

2 Let it shine. Sunniest province

Not only do Saskatchewanians get the most sunrays, the province also has the highest number of hot days (more than 30 C) and one of the clearest skies annually.

3 Time stands still. No DST shift

Saskatchewan stays the same time year-round, the only province to shun daylight savings time. It switches between central and mountain time by simply not "springing ahead" and people like it that way.

4 It ain't so flat. Cypress Hills

Cypress Hills in the southwest part of the province is 4,567 feet above sea level, making it the highest point in Canada between Labrador and the Rocky Mountains.

5 Nautical history. Shipwreck

In 2012, archeologists discovered the wreck of a steamship in the South Saskatchewan River that sunk in Saskatoon in 1908. No one was killed in the century-old accident, which was called the "greatest nautical disaster in Prairie history." **ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO IN REGINA**

'It' place. Why people love it here

Metro talked to people who have lived in Saskatchewan all their lives, others who have come back and those who are new to the province. Here's what they told us. **MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO IN SASKATOON**

"Here I can be a bigger fish in a small pond."

Ryan Smith, 32, CEO of Varial Technologies Inc. and co-founder of Ominocity, a music-and-culture blog. Sask. local.

"The quality of life that I have here (is) comparable to or better than ... a lot of other parts of Canada."

Bronwyn Stoddard, 27, copy writer at the Marketing Den. Sask. local.

"I figured opportunity seems to be everywhere but here, but things really changed here."

Paul Chavady, 25, real estate agent. Came to Sask. in 2001 from India, moved to Calgary in 2006, returned to Sask. in 2007.

" I knew things had changed.... I felt it was the right time for me to come back."

Blair Braitenbach, 33, communications co-ordinator, FASD Support Network of Saskatchewan Inc. Sask. local, left for Calgary in 2003, returned in 2012.

"I know there's going to be no issues finding a job here in my field."

Millie Lemieux, 27, grad student at the University of Saskatchewan in animal behaviour. Grew up in the Ottawa Valley, moved to Sask. in 2011.

"I noticed right away ... just how friendly and open people were, and accepting."

Laurence Nixon, 25, account manager at zu web strategy, design and development agency. Recruited by U of S Huskies football program in 2005, grew up in Richmond, B.C.

Indie campus

1974

The University of Regina is created as the Regina campus of the University of Saskatchewan becomes a separate institution.

1st debit card

1985

The first debit card in North America is tested at a Swift Current Pioneer Co-op. In 1981, the same credit union in Regina that brought Canada the ATM was busy working on the debit-card concept.

One-century young

2005

The province celebrates its 100th birthday.

Unemployment falls

2009

While Canada was in the midst of a recession, Saskatchewan was the only province to record a decline in unemployment.

Population rises

2012

As the economy grows, so does the population. The province's population reaches an all-time record of 1,086,564. Saskatchewan also sees the highest employment rate in July with 542,600 employed.

A-1 economy

2013

According to the Conference Board of Canada, Saskatchewan will have the top-ranked economy among the provinces, with a growth rate of 3.4 per cent. **JONATHAN RUSSELL AND ALI ZAFAR/METRO IN TORONTO**

Brazeau believed to be in custody

Domestic violence?

Controversial, outspoken senator kicked out of Tory caucus amid reports he was arrested

Conservative Sen. Patrick Brazeau was turfed from his party's caucus and believed to be behind bars Thursday after a 911 call summoned police to his home to investigate a complaint of domestic violence.

Brazeau, long a prominent and polarizing figure both within Canada's aboriginal community and beyond, was swiftly removed from the Conservative caucus after police arrived at his home in Gatineau, Que., around 9 a.m.

About three hours later — with Brazeau believed to be in custody, a red police tape cordon around his house and a cruiser parked in the driveway — a letter was circulated among caucus that he was no longer a member.

"It's known that in light of the serious events that have been reported today, I have removed Sen. Brazeau from the Conservative caucus," Prime Minister Stephen Harper told the Commons.

"Our understanding is that these are matters of a personal nature rather than Senate business, but they are very serious and we expect they will be dealt with through the courts."

House Leader Peter Van Loan later confirmed in the House that Brazeau's departure was directly linked to reports of a domestic incident.

Sen. Patrick Brazeau
FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brazeau, however, has been a thorn in the Conservative caucus' side for months, most recently over allegations that he was using other people's addresses in order to qualify for a Senate housing allowance and an aboriginal tax exemption.

Police described Brazeau's house as a crime scene, although they refused to confirm it was indeed the senator who was in custody, saying only that a man was arrested at the Gatineau address after a call to 911.

By the dinner hour Thursday, no charges had been formally laid. Police said they would keep the suspect in custody pending a possible court appearance Friday morning.

"There's no charge right now at the moment, but we will continue our investigation," said Gatineau police spokesman Pierre Lanthier.

Lanthier would not comment on the condition of the victim.

Brazeau's office said Thursday that he would remain in the Senate as independent.

Were he to face charges, Brazeau would be placed on leave from the Senate, and though he could still attend sessions, his access to benefits would be curtailed. He would only be suspended if convicted of an indictable offence.

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair said he hoped the Senate scrutinizes those rules if it ever comes time to apply them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A police officer talks on a cellphone outside the house of Sen. Patrick Brazeau in Gatineau, Que., Thursday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria

Pocket-dialling horror story

When a woman in Victoria got a call from her daughter's cellphone and heard terrified screams, she immediately dialled 911. It turned out the daughter was at a horror movie and had inadvertently called her mother. But police say they were forced to check on the daughter to make sure she was okay. They say since Jan. 1, emergency operators in the Victoria area have received 828 calls to 911 with no one on the other end of the line, but staff have to follow up on every call, something they say is a major drain on police resources.

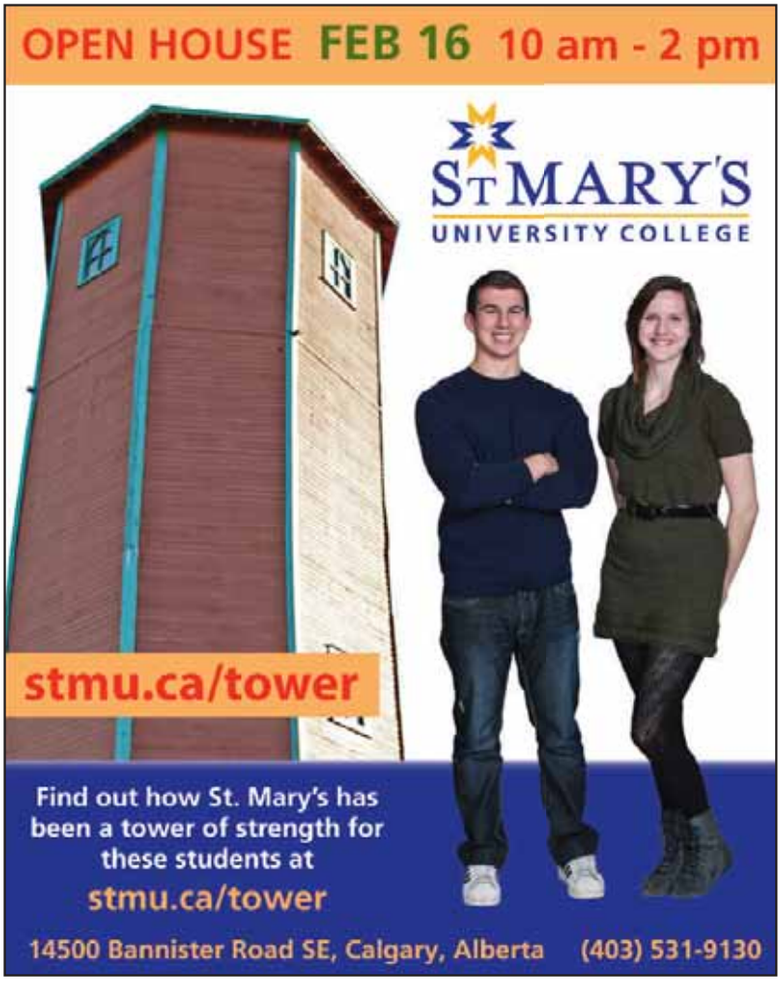
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Close call?

Massive asteroid about to soar past Earth

An asteroid measuring 150 feet will zip past Earth next week. The megarock will pass within 27,400 kilometres of the planet — the closest-known approach ever for an object of this size. But NASA scientists said Thursday there's no reason to worry. They insist there is absolutely no chance of a collision next Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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‘I do not have political ambitions,’ Carney says

Mark Carney, the current head of the Bank of Canada, will become governor of the Bank of England on July 1. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Central banking. At U.K. confirmation hearing, incoming BoE governor puts rumours to rest

Mark Carney wanted to make one thing perfectly clear Thursday before submitting to his unofficial, and ultimately successful, job interview for governor of the Bank of England — “I do not have political ambitions.”

The proof, Carney said, is in his choice of taking on the extremely challenging post as England’s top banker.

The statement before his hearing in London was perhaps the most categorical disavowal of any political interest for now, or when he is expected to return to Canada in five years.

The issue arose after it was revealed in December that Carney had been courted for — and in some eyes appeared somewhat interested in — the Liberal leadership. The speculation in Canada is that Carney would be ready to jump into the political ring after returning from England in 2018.

“I’m surprised it has been suggested that taking one of the most challenging jobs in central banking in another country would be politically advantageous in my home country,” he told the Treasury Select committee.

“If I had political ambitions, I would have pursued them in Canada and so I think this is revealed preference. I do not have political ambitions.”

Last fall, Carney was handpicked by U.K. chancellor George Osborne to take charge of the storied, 319-year-old institution on July 1, the first foreigner to ever do so.

The session began with some uncomfortable questions from chairman Andrew Tyrie, a Conservative MP, including why the Canadian changed his mind after first refusing the offer and whether he was worth his estimated $1.36 million pay packet, including a $390,000 housing allowance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

“I’m moving from one of the least expensive cities in the world, Ottawa, to one of the most expensive.”

Mark Carney, defending his pay packet before the Treasury Select committee

Investor activism

Apple sued over cash stockpiling

With its annual meeting looming and its stock on the decline, Apple is facing a rebellion from an activist investor who wants the company to stop stockpiling cash and give it to shareholders instead.

Greenlight Capital said it is suing Apple over the company’s proposal to eliminate preferred stock. David Einhorn, who heads the investment fund, said the proposal would close down one avenue for Apple to reward shareholders with more cash.

Apple is still the world’s most valuable company, but its stock has lost 35 per cent of its value since September, as it’s become obvious that its once-rapid growth has slowed down. The company is fabulously profitable, and Wall Street wants the company to share more of that money with its shareholders rather than tucking it away in low-yielding bank accounts.

“Apple has $145 per share of cash on its balance sheet. As a shareholder, this is your money,” Einhorn said in a letter to the company. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Halifax. N.S. gives BlackBerry $10M to save jobs

Tech giant BlackBerry will get $10 million over five years if it keeps at least 400 jobs in Nova Scotia, Premier Darrell Dexter announced Thursday.

Dexter said that without the investment, the company could have moved the work elsewhere, draining high-paying jobs from the province.

“If we wanted to have them here in Nova Scotia, then the simple fact of the matter is that we are competing with every other jurisdiction and location that they have,” Dexter told a news conference Thursday.

He said he approached BlackBerry last summer after it announced plans to cut its global workforce by 5,000 as it struggled to deal with a shrinking market share and delays in deploying its new platform, BlackBerry 10.

At the time, the company — then known as Research in Motion — laid off about 95 people from its operations in the Halifax suburb of Bedford. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economic impact. Losses from stalled pipelines are ‘devastating’: Think-tank

The inability to get Western Canadian crude to the right markets is costing the country’s economy dearly, according to a new report paid for by the Saskatchewan government.

Each stalled pipeline project means a loss to the Canadian economy of $30 million to $70 million every day, said the report penned by the Canada West Foundation, a Calgary-based think-tank.

“The economic impact is just devastating,” foundation CEO Dylan Jones said.

The Saskatchewan government paid $50,000 to commission the report. Premier Brad Wall has been an outspoken supporter of new pipeline projects, most recently signing a letter, along with 10 U.S. governors, urging U.S. President Barack Obama to approve the Keystone XL pipeline.

Alberta’s oilsands, the third-largest reserves on the planet, get most of the attention when it comes to the pipeline debate.

But Saskatchewan, which has considerable oil resources of its own, is affected by the pipeline pinch as well, Wall said in Regina.

“We hope that this helps get the message out, even to a greater degree than it is now, that we have a pipeline capacity issue in western North America and that’s costing Saskatchewan people a lot of money,” he said.

“Because of the pipeline capacity issue, we’re losing up to 19 to 20 per cent return on the taxpayer’s resource.” THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horseburger scandal. Polish official refutes Irish claims

Investigations in Poland have found no evidence backing Irish claims that Poland was the source of horsemeat that ended up in Irish and British burgers, a top Polish veterinarian says

Jaroslaw Naze, deputy head of Poland’s General Veterinary Inspectorate, said Ireland needed to hand over more documentary evidence, including labels on the suspected meat supplies, so Polish officials can complete their own investigation.

Tensions have emerged in recent days between the two countries, both major meat producers whose industries could be damaged by the scandal. Irish officials and an Irish meat company have blamed the contamination of beef patties with horsemeat on meat imported from Poland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

There “are no signs that the horsemeat was in Polish beef. My investigation shows that the beef was beef.”

Jaroslaw Naze, deputy head of Poland’s General Veterinary Inspectorate

Market Minute

DOLLAR 100.20¢ (-0.25¢)

TSX 12,755.92 (-5.68)

OIL $95.83 US (-79¢)

GOLD $1,671.30 US (-$7.50)

Natural gas: $3.29 US (-13¢)
Dow Jones: 13,944.05 (-42.47)

CAM CLARK FORD

NHL lockout boosted Cineplex profits: CEO

A slate of Hollywood hits featuring superheroes and a secret agent helped exhibitor Cineplex Inc. deliver the best full-year results in its history, and an almost 200-per-cent increase in fourth-quarter profit.

Chief executive Ellis Jacob said Thursday that the NHL hockey lockout left Canadians with fewer options for Saturday night entertainment. He thinks that was at least part of the reason Cineplex saw quarterly attendance jump 23 per cent.

"I keep saying (it) helped us, but it's hard to quantify," Jacob said in an interview after the company reported its results.

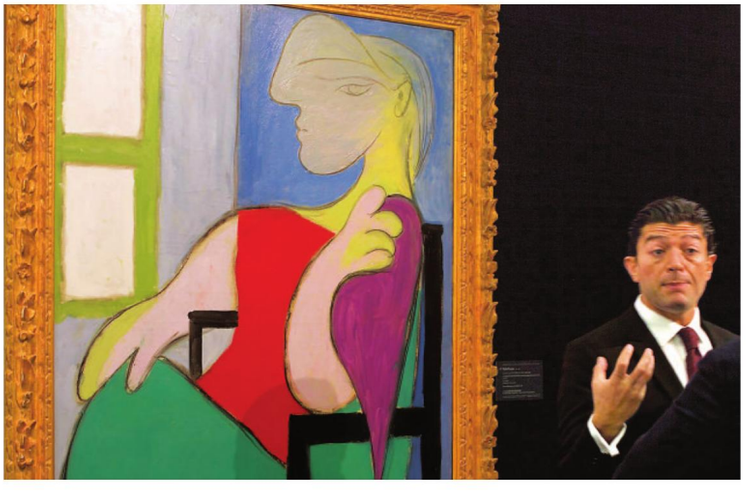
"All I can tell you is personally when I asked people 'What are you doing?' everybody on a Saturday night seemed to be going to a movie. When we checked the numbers it was hard to tell."

A combination of high-adrenaline action movies like James Bond entry Skyfall and broadly appealing adventures like The Hobbit and the finale of the Twilight series gave hockey fans plenty of alternatives. "The movies were appealing to a much wider demographic," Jacob added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dominant player

- Cineplex is by far the country's biggest exhibitor and owns movie theatres from Quebec to British Columbia. It draws about 70 per cent of Canadian box-office revenue. Rival Empire Theatres ranks a very distant second place with about 14 per cent.



Art market weathers Europe's economic storm

This 1932 painting by Pablo Picasso entitled Woman Sitting Near a Window fetched almost $45 million at auction Tuesday at Sotheby's in London. Sales of impressionist, modern and surrealist art this week at Sotheby's and Christie's saw pre-sale estimates shattered, proving the high-end art market is weathering Europe's economic storm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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THIS MIGHT SOUND CHEESY ...

THE LIST
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

It's officially time for the unofficial list of everything noteworthy or maybe just crazy. If it's worth talking about, it's here. If it's not listed, welp, then don't even think about bringing it up around the watercooler.

1 **Bilieb it.** Justin Bieber, often the butt of the Metro List, is elevated to No. 1 in honour of being the youngest artist to have five No. 1 albums on the Billboard Top 200. He turns 19 on March 1. Somewhere out there, Mozart's feeling old.

2 **A gravy state of affairs.** A fire destroys the St. Albert cheese factory, setting off a poutine panic in the nation's capital, as the supply of curds is cut off. Other cheese factories have offered to leap into the breach and produce emergency curds. Meanwhile, that sigh of relief is coming from Ottawa-area arteries.

3 **Speaking of clogged arteries.** Sen. Mike Duffy is in big trouble for claiming the expense allowance that goes with representing the good people of Prince Edward Island and maintaining a residence on The Gentle Island. The wags are calling him "Senator Come-From-Away," and the opposition demands to know the last time he actually set foot in Cavendish, where he allegedly lives. Mike, who spent many years demanding answers as a national political correspondent, is uncharacteristically silent.

4 **Ottawa Babylon.** What's with the Senate? Usually little more than a dormitory for burned-out bagmen, the Senate's on fire with scandal. Now Canada's youngest senator, Patrick Brazeau, has been linked to an alleged domestic disturbance and kicked out of the Tory caucus. When unelected political hacks behave badly, I say, "Off with their expense accounts!"

5 **Speaking of Prince Edward Island.** CreateSpace (owned by Amazon) has reinvented Anne of Green Gables as a blonde, complete with heaving bosom and come-hither look. Huh? Anne fans are not amused. Where are the carroty pigtails and freckles? And who, exactly, is the world's largest bookseller trying to reach by sexing up the patron saint of P.E.I.? Definitely not your mother's Anne. Maybe your kid brother's?

6 **My kingdom for a hearse.** The bones of King Richard III, epic Shakespearean villain, are dug up in a parking lot in Leicester, England. His final resting place will likely be a tomb in the more royally suitable Leicester Cathedral. And along with the up-grave, he's getting an image makeover. Turns out the last Plantagenet wasn't a nasty, scheming hunchback after all, but the victim of 16th-century Tudor attack ads.

7 **BlackBerries ripe for picking.** RIM changed its name to BlackBerry and launched the sleek new Z10 phon, which hit stores in Canada this week. But it won't be on sale in the U.S. until mid-March (where they'll call it the Zee10). Meanwhile, BlackBerry has hired songbird Alicia Keys to spread the musical word across America. Now, if only they can get her to stop tweeting from her iPhone.

8 **Year of the Snake.** If you've already booted your new year's resolutions, no problem. Lunar New Year, Feb. 10, gives you a chance to reboot. Let's just hope 2013 doesn't turn out like 1929, a previous snake-bit year!

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

Justin Bieber flashes his abs on Late Night With Jimmy Fallon on Tuesday.
HEO WARGO/GETTY IMAGES

The skin-ny on military training

CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY IMAGES

Military training

Going Spartan for S. Korean snow

Around 400 marines from South Korea and the United States shed their shirts in sub-zero temperatures as part of a training exercise near the town of Pyeongchang, 180 kilometres east of Seoul.

To test their limits in extreme conditions, the bare-chested soldiers traversed icy waters and, as pictured, climbed onto each other's shoulders for "cavalry" battle. METRO

Viral military

Air force parodies Les Misérables

Despite a penchant for serious training, South Korea's armed forces show they can have fun, too.

The country's air force has posted a Les Misérables parody on YouTube, complete with snow-shovelling airmen, a lovesick military conscript and a vengeful superior officer.

The clip, entitled Les Militaribles, has amassed around a million views in just a few days. METRO

Army man's viewpoint

"Through this training session, Marine Corps of South Korea and the U.S. will learn how to adapt to various combat environments, including extreme cold and snow."

Lt.-Col. Lee Keun-soo to the Yonhap News Agency. It is the first time that the marine corps of the two allied nations have held such joint winter drills, officials said.

In numbers

18 days

The length of the marines' gruelling training, during which temperatures can dip below -20 C.

Metropolitan Panel

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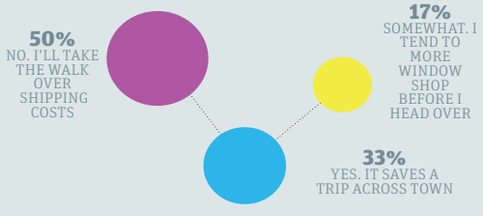
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@irene_karras:
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@Emmej:
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@nykdanuyoga:
The Weather in #YYC has been so nice, if didn't know better I could be charmed into thinking spring had sprung <3

@HalifaxMagazine:
The weirdest thing on Twitter today: a bunch of Brazilians have taken over Calgary's #yyc hashtag with presumably false UFO reports: #ufoyyc

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Jason Bateman and Melissa McCarthy are hardly rational humans in Identity Thief. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

'Comedy' a time thief

Identity Thief. Even Jason Bateman and Melissa McCarthy can't save this plastic farce of a plot that hinges on stolen credit cards

Richard: Mark, there is suspension of disbelief. Then there's stretching the limits of believability. And then there is Identity Thief. I don't demand that my movies make perfect sense. Far from it. If I am enjoying the story I'm willing to overlook some leaps in logic. But the plot twists here simply don't work. For one thing, I guess simply cancelling the stolen credit cards lacks comedic possibilities, but it would have been the right thing to do and it would have spared us this mostly unfunny "comedy."

Mark: Richard, this is a very, very broad comedy, and I don't just mean Melissa McCarthy's pants. Frankly, I found it hard to sit through what felt like a bad remake of Trains, Planes and Automobiles with John Candy in drag and assassins just behind. But I don't know which I found more dispiriting — the actors trying to wring a few drops of laughter from the nonsensical yet predictable script or the sentimental relationship between the main characters, which would NEVER, EVER happen if ANY detail of the film were real.

RC: The sickly sentimentality of the last half of the movie — he learns confidence, she gains a conscience — tries to humanize two characters who don't behave like humans. It would be like the Three Stooges unloading onscreen about childhood trauma. You can't make us feel for these characters no mater how often you show McCarthy crying, because there isn't an ounce of authenticity anywhere in the film.

MB: Correct! But what you might feel, as I did, is what a fine actor McCarthy is, even with this bogus material, and how badly you want her to be paired with another script of Bridesmaids quality. As far as Bateman goes, he's Paul Rudd lite, but even Rudd would not have made a difference here. I knew from the early scene with Jon Favreau that there was nothing grounding this flick.

RC: McCarthy's timing is perfect. Over dinner when she's asked, "Do you know what a sociopath is?" She replies, "Do they like ribs?" Not a great gag but her timing sells it. Imagine what she might have done with actual jokes.

MB: Usually in a movie like this one, there's one supporting actor who's rises above the rest of the movie. In this one, nobody. Zilch. Poor Amanda Peet, forced, probably at gunpoint, to act with only her pert hairdo.

Synopsis

After struggling midlevel executive Sandy Patterson (Jason Bateman) foolishly divulges his credit card information over the phone to Diana (Melissa McCarthy), she steals his identity and quickly racks up five-digit debt on his cards. When the cops in his home state of Colorado inform him they can't do anything unless she comes to Denver, he goes to Florida, finds her and vows to drive her back, across the country, to justice.

Star ratings:

- Richard: ●●○○○
- Mark: ●●○○○

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Drama

Side Effects

Director. Steven Soderbergh

Stars. Rooney Mara, Channing Tatum, Jude Law

If this is in fact to be Steven Soderbergh's final film as a director released in theatres, he's going out on a pretty good note. There are better entries in his filmography — like Traffic or last year's Magic Mike or even Ocean's 11 — but the eclectic director can still count this one as a high point. The twisty, intrigue-filled plot — which we can't go into too much detail about because spoilers abound — has an engaging neo-Hitchcock vibe, but Soderbergh and screenwriter Scott Z. Burns employ one twist too many, making things feel a bit silly at times and keeping the film from being truly spectacular. **NED EHRBAR**

Actors venture out of their Safe Haven

Safe Haven, starring Julianne Hough and Josh Duhamel, opens in theatres next Friday. HANDOUT

Improving on improv. Julianne Hough and Josh Duhamel worked their thespian chops under the direction of Lasse Hallström

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

In Safe Haven, a new romantic thriller from director Lasse Hallström and writer Nicholas Sparks, Julianne Hough plays a woman on the run from her past, a role she says was "liberating."

"Everything that I've done prior to this has obviously been performance based," says the star of Footloose and Rock of Ages, "but also very, 'Here is your mark, stand on it. These are your exact lines and these are the songs you are singing.'

"This was very freeing for me. I really felt like they hired me to act. I felt like I grew so much in this because it was scary.

"It is scary to do something that you've never done before. I always say that if I'm afraid, I should probably do it. But you're on your tippy-toes because you don't know what he's going to say next because a lot of it was improvised."

The "he" she refers to is Josh Duhamel, who takes a break from playing Lennox in the Tranformers movies to take on the role of Hough's love interest.

"When I first heard of Lasse's style of shooting, I knew that he liked to be free," he says.

"It's liberating but it also forces you to do much more work because if you change it up you still have to know what each scene is about in order to make the whole movie work. You can't just improv the whole thing because then one scene won't bleed into the next. They started working two weeks before I did and Julianne was like, 'It's great, we improv all day.' What do you mean we improv all day?!"

"The first scene I did with (co-star) Dave Lyons they had us sitting across the table from each other talking," Hough chimes in.

"They said, 'Just talk about anything.' We literally talked about upside down pineapple cake and nothing made sense, and we were like, 'What are we doing?'"

Lasse Hallström sets screen on fire with Sparks

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

The romantic thriller Safe Haven marks Swedish director Lasse Hallström's second attempt at bringing a Nicholas Sparks novel to the screen. And this time around he felt much freer with the source material. Which is just how he likes it.

How did your second go at directing a Nicholas Sparks adaptation differ from Dear John?

It happens to be built on another Nicholas Sparks novel, but this time we were free to mess with the material. It was pretty much the backbone of the story and then we were free to improvise around it and come up with our own ideas. Now that film is gone, we can roll those cameras for 40 minutes and there's not a cost involved apart from time. You can't tell the difference between film and digital anymore. So I take advantage of that new technique. I roll those two cameras forever and ever.

With these technological advancements, do you ever feel a sense of jealousy of filmmakers starting out now?

I never had that, not that kind of jealousy, because I shot this way anyway. I just had to change cassettes quickly, after 10 minutes. And I shot on 16 mm a lot to lower the costs of footage.

A good day for McClane in Moscow?

Die Hard. Bruce Willis reprises his role as a comedic cop — this time blasting his way around Eastern Europe

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Bruce Willis and Jai Courtney star in A Good Day to Die Hard, which opens next Thursday. HANDOUT

Bruce Willis is the first to admit that, five movies in, the titles of the Die Hard franchise are getting a bit ridiculous. "We only do another Die Hard when they have another really complicated title that no one quite understands," Willis jokes. "We had just gotten to where we understand (2007's) Live Free or Die Hard, and then now we have A Good Day to Die Hard, which, I have to be honest with you, I'm a little baffled still by that one."

Twenty-five years after the first Die Hard turned Willis from a funny TV guy into a bona fide action star, he's back in A Good Day to Die Hard as Det. John McClane, the wise-cracking New York cop who always manages to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. This go round, that wrong place is Moscow, where he's tracking down his estranged son (Jai Courtney).

"Moscow was really built for a couple of fish out of water like us. I can't imagine a bigger ocean of non-communication than Eastern Europe and Russia," Willis says. "I don't speak any other languages really. We got a couple jokes out of that. It just opens it up. I like seeing myself not be able to figure things out — not being able to figure out how the car works, not being able to figure out what someone is saying to me. I can hardly understand English."

The fourth film found McLane reconciling with his daughter (Mary Elizabeth Winstead), who has a small part here. With John Jr. featuring in this film, does that mean a sixth might reunite McClane and his wife, Holly, played by Bonnie Bedelia?

"I always think of Bonnie Bedelia and having her coming back," Willis says. "Those things are unfortunately out of my hands. It has to do with the story."

Bedelia, for her part, has been keeping busy on NBC's Parenthood.

Willis is already the fourth member of the Expendables team to hit theatres with a headlining film in 2013, following Arnold Schwarzenegger (The Last Stand), Jason Statham (Parker) and Sylvester Stallone (Bullet to the Head). But Willis isn't concerned with how his latest outing will stack up against his colleagues'. "I don't compete with anyone. I compete with myself," he says.

"I wish everyone well. I'm still a big film fan. I still go to see other action films and I go to see comedies and all kinds of weird things. There is no competition."

The origins of yippee-ki-yay

It turns out possibly the most famous line of dialogue in Bruce Willis' career, "yippee-ki-yay, motherf—er," wasn't even in the original Die Hard script. "It was an ad-lib," Bruce Willis admits. "Alan Rickman was such a good bad guy, he was constantly picking on me. He said something to me and I just happen to let that line slip out and it just became part of the fabric of the film. It's just amazing to me that the line has lasted this long. Kids say it to me on the street. Grandmothers. It's a little awkward. But I'm happy that they say it."

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DIRECTED BY STEVEN SODERBERGH WRITTEN BY SCOTT Z. BURNS
14A SEXUAL CONTENT
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STARTS TODAY Check Theatre Directory for Locations & Showtimes.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB.8 TO THURS., FEB. 14. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

Canyon Meadows Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail, 403-670-5444

Argo (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:45-6:45-9:40
Flight (18A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-7:50
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:25-9:50
Hitchcock (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:45
Hotel Transylvania (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:55-7:15
Hyde Park on Hudson (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10-9:55
Ice Age: Continental Drift (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:40-7
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:05-9:55
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (14A) Fri-Thu 9:25
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Thu 9:35
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:35-6:40-9:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7-9:45

Crowfoot Crossing 91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

(STC) Fri 11:55-3:25-6:50-10:15 Sat 11:35-3:25-6:50-10:15 Sun 1:30-5:05-8:35 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:55-8:35 Thu 11:55-3:20-6:50-10:15
Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Wed 10:20 No Passes Thu 1:10-4:10-7:05-10
The Borrowers (G) Sat 11
Bullet to the Head (14A) Fri 12:45-3:20-5:35-8:05-10:25 Sat 12:30-3:20-5:35-8:05-10:25 Sun 12:45-3:10-5:45-8:10-10:25 Mon-Tue 1-3:15-5:30-7:55-10:10 Wed 1-3:15-5:30-7:45 Thu 1-3:15-5:30-7:45-10
Django Unchained (18A) Fri 12-3-6:35-10:10 Sat 11:20-3-6:35-10:10 Sun-Wed 1:20-4:50-8:25
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Wed 10 No Passes Thu 12:15-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Fri-Sat 12:50-3:05-5:20-7:35-9:50 Sun 12:30-3:20-5:35-7:50-10:05 Mon-Wed 1-3:10-5:20-7:35-10 Thu 12:50-3:05-5:20-7:35-9:50
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri 11:50-2:55-6:30-10:05 Sat 11:10-2:55-6:30-10:05 Sun 12:55-4:40-8:15 Mon-Wed 1:05-4:40-8:15 Thu 12:15-2:55-6:30-10:05
Identity Thief (14A) No Passes Fri-Sat 11:45-2:20-5-7:45-10:30 No Passes Sun 11:45-2:20-5-7:40-10:30 No Passes Mon-Tue 2:20-5-7:40-10:15 No Passes Wed 5-7:40-10:15 No Passes Thu 11:45-2:20-5-7:45-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 1:05-4:05-6:55-9:45 Sun-Wed 1:15-4:05-6:55-9:45 Thu 12:05-3:50-6:40-9:35
Love Story (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
Parker (18A) Fri 12:10-4:20-7:15-10 Sat 1:30-4:20-7:15-10 Sun 4:30-7:30-10:15 Mon-Tue 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:05 Wed 1:40-4:30-7:20
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sat 1:15 Sun 1:05 Mon-Wed 1:10
Safe Haven (PG) Thu 1:40-4:25-7:10-9:55
Side Effects (14A) Fri-Sat 12:05-2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35 Sun 12:05-2:35-5:20-8-10:35 Mon-Tue 2:35-5:15-7:50-10:20 Wed 5:15-7:50-10:20 Thu 12-2:35-5:15-7:55-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Skyfall (14A) Fri-Sat 3:35-6:45-9:55 Sun 3:30-6:40-9:55 Mon-Tue 3:30-6:40-9:50 Wed 3:30-9:50
Warm Bodies (14A) Fri-Sat 12:15-2:40-5:05-7:30-10 Sun 12:15-2:50-5:25-7:55-10:20 Mon-Wed 2:40-5:05-7:30-9:55 Thu 12:05-2:30-4:55-7:20-9:45
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri 12:20-3:40-7-10:20 Sat 11:55-3:40-7-10:20 Sun 1:50-5:15-8:45 Mon-Wed 1:50-5:10-8:45 Thu 12:20-3:40-7-10:20

Eau Claire Market 200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

Django Unchained (18A) Fri 7:45 Sat-Sun 12:30-4:10-7:45 Mon-Thu 8:15
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Thu 6:30-9:20
Identity Thief (14A) No Passes Fri 7:15-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:10-3:40-7:15-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:20-9:10
The Impossible (14A) Fri 6:45-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:45-9:50 Mon 8:50 Tue-Wed 6-8:50
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-9:40 Sat-Sun 12-3:20-6:30-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:50-9
Quartet (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:40
Safe Haven (PG) Thu 6-8:50
Stand Up Guys (14A) Fri 7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 12:50-4-7:30-10:10 Mon-Wed 6:30-9:20

Empire Studio 16 Country Hills 388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

(STC) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:15-4:15-8:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Wed 4:15-8:15
Argo (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:25-10:10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Wed 4:30-7:25-10:10
Beautiful Creatures (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed 10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 4-7:20-10:20
Bullet to the Head (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:05-4:20-7:05-10:05 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Tue 4:20-7:05-10:05 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed 4:20-7:05 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 4:20-7:05-10:05
Django Unchained (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:30-5:30-9:30 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Wed 5:30-9:30
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed 10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 4:15-6:20-9:05
A Good Day to Die Hard: The IMAX Experience (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 3:50-7:05-10:25
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 3:30-6:50-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Wed 4:30-8:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 4:30-8:30
Identity Thief (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:20-4:05-6:30-7:10-9:10-9:45
Life of Pi (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 3:10-6:40-9:35
Race 2 (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 2:30-6:10-9:35
Safe Haven (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 3:45-6:25-9:20
Side Effects (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:20-3:55-7-10:10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:55-7-10:10
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:05-3:15-6:35-9:50 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Tue 6:35-9:50 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed-Thu 3:15-6:35-9:50
Special 26 (STC) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 2:45-6-9
Top Gun: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1-4-7:15-10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Wed 4-7:15-10
Warm Bodies (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:25-3:05-7:30-10:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:05-7:30-10:15
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:55-3:50 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Wed 3:50
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Tue 6:05-9:25 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed 6:30 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 6:05-9:25

Empire Studio 10 MacLeod Trail 100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

(STC) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:10-3:40-7:40
Beautiful Creatures (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed 10 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 12:10-3:15-6:50-9:45
Bullet to the Head (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:45-4:45-7:50-10:15 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed 1:45-4:45-7:30 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 1:45-4:45-7:50-10:15
Django Unchained (18A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 8:15
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed 10 Digital Presentation Thu 1:20-4:10-7:30-10:20
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (18A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:10
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 4-8:30 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 4-8
Identity Thief (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7-10
Safe Haven (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 12:30-3:40-7:10-10:05
Side Effects (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:45-3:30-6:45-9:30 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 12:45-3:30-6:40-9:30
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:40
Warm Bodies (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:10-4:20-7:15-9:50 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 1:10-4:20-7:20-9:50
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:20-4:15
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 12:30-4:10-8 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed 12:30-6:30

Moviedome 1039 999 36 St. N.E., 403-248-2000 Scotiabank Chinook

6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994
(STC) Fri 3:10-6:35-10:05 Sat 11:45-3:10-6:35-10:05 Sun-Wed 1-4:45-8:15
Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Wed 10:30 No Passes Thu 1:30-4:20-7:10-10
The Borrowers (G) Sat 11
Bullet to the Head (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:25-5:50-8:15-10:45
Die Hard Marathon (STC) No Passes Wed 12:10
Django Unchained (18A) Fri 3:05-6:50-10:25 Sat 11:20-3:05-6:50-10:25 Sun-Thu 12:45-4:30-8:30
Gangster Squad (18A) Fri 2:20-5-7:40-10:40 Sat 11:40-2:20-5-7:40-10:40 Sun-Mon 5-7:40-10:40 Tue 2:20-5-7:40-10:40 Wed 2:20-5-7:40 Thu 2:20-5-7:40-10:40
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Wed 10:30 No Passes Thu 1-3:30-6-8:30-11
A Good Day to Die Hard: The IMAX Experience (14A) No Passes Wed 10 No Passes Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:10-5:25-7:50-10:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Thu 2
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 6-10
Identity Thief (14A) No Passes Fri 1:50-4:30-7:15-10 No Passes Sat 11:15-1:50-4:30-7:15-10 No Passes Sun-Tue 1:50-4:30-7:15-10 No Passes Wed 1:50-4:30-7:15-10-10:45 No Passes Thu 2:35-4:30-5:15-7:15-8-10-10:45 No Passes Fri 2:35-5:15-8-10:45 No Passes Sat 12-2:35-5:15-8-10:45 No Passes Sun-Tue 2:35-5:15-8-10:45 No Passes Wed 2:35-5:15-8 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 1:35-4:30-7:25-10:20 Wed 1:35-4:30-10:20 Thu 1:35-4:30-7:25-10:20
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Tue 12:30
Love Story (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
Mama (14A) Fri-Thu 3:20-5:45-8:05-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera Encore (STC) Sat 10:55
Movie 43 (18A) Fri-Sun 3:45-6:05-8:25-10:50 Mon 3:45-10:50 Tue 3:45-6:05-8:25-10:50
Parker (18A) Fri 1:45-4:45-7:45-10:35 Sat 4:45-7:45-10:35 Sun-Tue 1:45-4:45-7:45-10:35 Wed 1:45-4:45-7:45
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Thu 12:40
Safe Haven (PG) Thu 1:25-4:15-7-9:45
Side Effects (14A) Fri 12:35-3-5:30-8:10-10:50 Sat 1:15-3-5:30-8:10-10:50 Sun-Tue 12:35-3-5:30-8:10-10:50 Wed 12:35-3-8:10-10:50 Thu 12:35-3-5:30-8:10-10:50
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:05
Top Gun: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Tue 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Wed 12-2:30-5-7:30
Warm Bodies (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sat 12:30-3:45-7:05-10:40 Sun-Wed 1:15-4:45-8:10 Thu 4:45-8:10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1

Plaza Theatre 1133 Kensington Rd. N.W., 403-283-3636

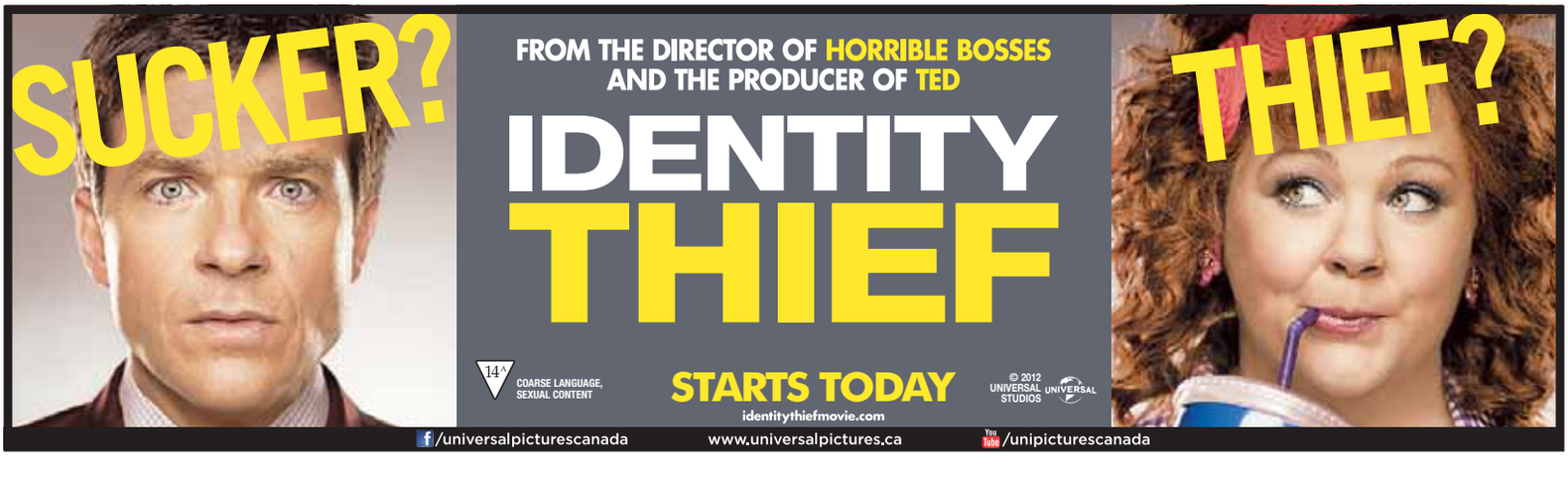
Argo (14A) Fri-Sat 9:15 Sun 8:15 Mon-Thu 9:15
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 7 Sat 2:30-7 Sun 3:30-6 Mon-Thu 7
World's Best Commercials: The 2012 Cannes Lions Ad Awards (STC) Sat 4:45

Sunridge Spectrum 2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

ABCD - Any Body Can Dance 3D (STC) Fri-Wed 2:30-6:15-9:35 Thu 12:30-4:15-8:20
Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Wed 10 No Passes Thu 12:40-3:55-7:20-10:20
The Borrowers (G) Sat 11
Bullet to the Head (14A) Fri-Wed 2-4:30-7-9:30 Thu 12:55-3:30-6:30-9:30
Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Sun 12:55-4:40-8:20 Mon-Wed 12:55-4:35-8:10
Gangster Squad (18A) Fri-Wed 3:35-6:35-9:40
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Thu 1-3:35-7:10-9:50 No Passes Thu 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:25
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 1-3:20-5:40-8:05-10:30 Mon-Wed 1:40-4:25-7:30-10:05 Thu 2-4:35-8-10:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:05-7:50 Mon-Wed 4:05-8 Thu 4:20-8:10
Identity Thief (14A) No Passes Sat 11:15 No Passes Wed 10:20 No Passes Thu 1:10-4:05-7:30-10:15 No Passes Wed 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:10
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 12:45-3:40-6:45-9:45 Wed 12:45-3:40-6:45 Thu 12:45-3:40-6:45-9:45
Mama (14A) Wed 1:05-3:45-7:05-10
Parker (18A) Fri-Wed 1:10-4-6:55-9:50 Thu 12:50-3:45-6:40-9:45
Race 2 (14A) Fri-Tue 12:35-4:10-7:45 Wed 1:50-6:20
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Wed 12:50
Safe Haven (PG) Thu 1:45-4:40-7:40-10:30
Side Effects (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:50-7:15-9:55 Mon-Tue 1:20-4:15-7:10-9:55 Wed 4:15-7:10-9:55 Thu 1:20-4-6:50-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Sisterakas (PG) Fri-Wed 12:40-3:30-6:30-9:25 Thu 1:35-4:25-7:15-10:05
Warm Bodies (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:35 Mon-Tue 1-3:55-7:40-10:15 Wed 3:55-7:40-10:15 Thu 1:30-4:30-7:05-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1

Westhills 10 165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

(STC) Fri-Sun 1-4:30-8 Mon-Wed 5:10-8:35
Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Thu 12:55-3:50-7:05-9:55
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Thu 1:05-4:30-7:50-10:30
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:50-7:40-10:15 Mon 8:55 Tue-Wed 6-8:55
Identity Thief (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:30-10:10 No Passes Mon-Wed 5:35-8:10 No Passes Thu 1:20-4:20-7:30-10:10
The Impossible (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:10-9:50 Mon 5:15 Tue-Wed 5:15-8 Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:50
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:30 Mon-Wed 5:30-8:20 Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:30
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:15-7:50 Mon-Wed 5:25-8:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Quartet (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-6:30-9:20 Mon-Wed 5-7:40 Thu 12:40-3:10-6:30-9:20
Safe Haven (PG) Thu 12:30-3:30-7:40-10:20
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:20-6:50-9:40 Mon-Wed 5:50-8:40 Thu 12:25-3:20-6:50-9:40
Warm Bodies (14A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4-7:20-10 Mon-Wed 5:20-7:50 Thu 1:35-4-7:20-10
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:40-7-10:20 Mon-Wed 5:05-8:30 Thu 12:20-3:40-7-10:15



Human conflict comes to a boil on The Walking Dead

Zombie drama. Season three resumes this Sunday, with David Morrissey's increasingly deranged Governor ruling human survivors

"Brother against brother," says The Governor fiercely. "Winner goes free. Fight to the death."

Is this any way to run a town?

AMC's zombie drama The Walking Dead ended the first half of this season with a wrenching faceoff: roughneck brothers Merle and Daryl were pitted in a bloody test of loyalty to The Governor as he rallied his flock — the residents of Woodbury, Ga. — to goad them on.

That was last December, and things haven't settled down as the hit horror serial returns for another eight episodes Sunday at 9 p.m. EST. The death match continues. The Governor, played by David Morrissey, is increasingly oppressive, even deranged.

"With Woodbury, he has built a sanctuary, a place of safety where humanity can start again," says Morrissey. "But the negative side of power is like a wobbly tooth for him. He just can't stop sticking his tongue in there. There's something gloriously painful about it, and he likes that."

He seems to be losing his marbles as he sees threats both within and beyond the town walls. This has placed on his enemies list not only the zombies—with their ploddingly persistent appetite for human flesh—but also mortals, who are far less predictable. These include the ragtag refugees led by Sheriff Rick Grimes hiding out in an abandoned prison nearby.

"You can adapt to the zombie threat, and that's part of what Woodbury is about," says Morrissey. "But the new problem that has emerged in season three is human beings. What you have now is two communities of humans in conflict. That's much more complicated."

In other words: What's scarier than the undead? The living!

In the past, The Governor exhibited a softer side. His most touching moments showed his desperate attempts to stay connected with Penny, his undead little girl. Removing her from the cell in his apartment where he kept her chained, he lovingly combed her wiry zombie hair in one memorable scene, while she snarled and snapped fiercely.

Strange as it was, the scene made perfect sense to Morrissey.

"You have a sick child and you're trying to do normal things that just aren't normal anymore," he says. "There's great certainty and comfort in the past, and he was trying to re-create that."

But in December's finale, Penny was stabbed by Michonne, an intruder out to kill The Governor.

"He loses the one thing he lives for," says Morrissey, adding with a bit of understatement, "Now he's full of anger."

But will The Governor be back to rule over the ultimate gated community? Not surprisingly, Morrissey is cagey when replying to that question: "Contractually, I'm there for five years. But that's not to say that I don't die at the end of this season, or whenever."

Morrissey approached the role of The Governor with his typical concern that the character display many facets and steadily develop.

"I wanted to be sure he didn't just become a cartoon buddy," Morrissey says.

Meanwhile, he began mastering the obligatory Southern accent.

Describing his happy, working-class childhood in Liverpool, England - "it was a tough environment, but tough in the right way" - Morrissey speaks in the sing-songy lilt reminiscent of the Liverpudlian lads who formed the world's greatest rock band (and might pronounce "band" something like "bah-yind.")

He says he worked with the same accent coach assigned to series star Andrew Lincoln (who plays Rick Grimes), a fellow Brit. And he trained hard. "My children got very bored with me reading them bedtime stories in a Georgia accent," he says with a laugh.

The Woodbury scenes were shot in the town of Senoia, Ga., 40 miles south of Atlanta. Months of filming took Morrissey away from his family - sons 17 and 8 years old, and a daughter, 15, as well as his wife, novelist Esther Freud (who happens to be the great-granddaughter of Sigmund Freud).

"The people who live there are great," says Morrissey, "because we do disrupt their lives."

Shooting for the season wrapped in November, "and I had a lovely time there," Morrissey says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Making a name

The 48-year-old British actor gravitates toward complex, off-kilter roles.

- **The Deal.** Morrissey played then-MP (and future Prime Minister) Gordon Brown in the 2003 British TV film.
- **State of Play.** In the 2003 U.K. miniseries, Morrissey wowed as an uptight Member of Parliament.
- **Blackpool.** He played the thuggish owner of the Blackpool seaside arcade in this quirky miniseries along with co-star David Tennant (Doctor Who).

The Governor (David Morrissey) enjoys some quality father-daughter time on The Walking Dead, returning this Sunday at 9 p.m. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV Picks

New TV titles are The Boring

We can blame The Voice for the trend toward spartan names for reality shows, which has spread to CBS's brand-new series The Job. In the show's pilot airing Friday, five people are vying for an assistant manager position at the Palm Restaurant Group.

Maybe the losers could get a gig coming up with names for reality TV shows?

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Live From New York, It's J-Biebs

Canadian teen-pop icon Justin Bieber ticks yet another item off his bucket list tonight, as the fresh-faced Stratford, Ont., product braves Studio 8H to host Saturday Night Live. The 18-year-old will also be the musical guest on the program, returning to the show after performing Baby and U Smile way back in 2010. Let's just hope the country's shrieking tweens note the time and avoid waking the neighbourhood. (Global, NBC).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Remembering Whitney

On the eve of the Grammy Awards last year, the music world was thrown into mourning by the sudden death of singing legend Whitney Houston. And a night before this Sunday's instalment of the Grammys, we're invited to revisit that event with The Grammys Will Go On: A Death in the Family, which shows how producers scrambled to acknowledge the passing of a legend with less than 24 hours before the gala. (Global, CBS).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Carly Rae at the Grammys

It looks like a wide-open race heading into Sunday's 55th Annual Grammy Awards. The Canadian contingent of nominees includes moody Toronto rapper Drake with a leading three nods, as well as Mission, B.C., pop singer Carly Rae Jepsen and Windsor, Ont.-born R&B crooner Tamia with two apiece.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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A Grammy maybe? Carly Rae Jepsen heads for Grammy gold with 2 nods

Carly Rae Jepsen's Call Me Maybe became the soundtrack for endless viral online fun last year: U.S. infantry soldiers lip-synched to it in Afghanistan's Kunar Province.

So did James Franco and the U.S. Olympic swim team. Models from Abercrombie & Fitch showed off their abs to it, as did hair-whipping Miami Dolphins cheerleaders. Dogs have barked the whole song. Parodies of it have been parodied.

Fellow singers from Katy Perry to Selena Gomez embraced the pop goodness.

Even the Cookie Monster jumped on the Call Me Maybe train.

The song put 27-year-old Jepsen, who finished third on a season of Canadian Idol, in the spotlight and on a path to potential Grammy gold. The monster hit is nominated for song of the year and best pop vocal performance at the Feb. 10 awards show.

"I was gunning maybe for top 10 on iTunes. That was my little, mini secret goal," she said recently by phone from Los Angeles, where she was picking out a dress to wear to the Grammys, where she'll also present an award.

The song had a nine week-arc on top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart and has sold more than 6.7 million tracks in the United States, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

The only thing Jepsen hasn't been able to do is have album sales that match her powerful single. She put out the CD Kiss last September, but despite a hit second single — the double platinum Good Time with Owl City — the album has sold only 226,000 copies.

"I think with (a) song being as big as Call Me Maybe, there's always that challenge of how do we push past that and show people that there is more to offer," she said. "I'm confident, whether it's with this album or the next, I'll be able to prove that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carly Rae Jepsen.
JOHN SHEARER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nominations

Who is she competing against?

- **Category.** The song, which Jepsen co-wrote with guitarist Tavish Crowe and Marianas Trench lead singer Josh Ramsay, will compete in the song of the year category at the Grammys with No.1 hits from fun. and Kelly Clarkson, as well as critically acclaimed tunes from U.K. singer Ed Sheeran and R&B performer Miguel.

Tegan and Sara bask in first-ever nomination

Grammy Awards. Calgary duo aren't exactly confident about their chances when it comes to winning at this Sunday's award show

First-time Grammy Award nominees Tegan and Sara face some tough competition in the long-form music video category this Sunday, but at least one person close to the Calgary twins is confident.

"My mom's like, 'I think you're going to win,'" laughed Tegan Quin in a recent interview alongside her sister.

"I was like, 'Mom, we're up against Mumford & Sons and U2. You're high.'"

Even if the 32-year-old Quins aren't confidently clearing space on their mantels, they're tickled by the recognition.

The duo is up for Get Along, a DVD the five-time Juno nominees released back in November 2011 that features three separate documentaries totalling more than two hours of footage.

Sometimes such exercises in fan service carry the whiff of a cash-in, but Get Along was different — for one thing, it took about 16 months to compile.

It also provided an uncommonly intimate look at the twins, featuring footage of their trip to India as well as interviews with close friends and, yes, their mother, who has long been the subject of embarrassing anecdotes told by the twins onstage (with an unflattering voice impression to boot). Perhaps in part because of the amount of work that went into Get Along, the Quins were thrilled to see it recognized.

"(It) was a labour of love," Sara said. "We spent a lot of time working on it. So to have it recognized on such a high level, that's so exciting for us.

"Whether you believe in these systems of grading and competition ... it doesn't matter. Because your parents love it, your friends think it's cool. We're stoked."

As much as they're enjoying being Gramminated (as Sara put it), the pair won't be able to attend the ceremony this Sunday at the Staples Center due to press duties overseas, where they're promoting their latest record, Heartthrob.

The Quins did, however, offer to send their mother down to California in their place.

"She didn't want to go," Tegan said. "So she didn't think we were going to win that much."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

First-time Grammy Award nominees Tegan and Sara aren't confident about their chances of winning. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian nominees

A list of Canadian nominees at the Grammy Awards

- **Drake (three nominations).** Best rap album (Take Care); best rap song (The Motto); best rap performance (HYFR)
- **Carly Rae Jepsen (two nominations).** Song of the year (Call Me Maybe); best pop solo performance (Call Me Maybe)
- **Tamia (two nominations).** Best R&B song (Beautiful Surprise); best R&B album (Beautiful Surprise)
- **Arcade Fire.** Best song written for visual media (Abraham's Daughter from The Hunger Games)
- **Michael Bublé.** Best traditional pop vocal album (Christmas)
- **Deadmau5.** Best dance/electronic album (Album Title Goes Here)
- **Melanie Fiona.** Best traditional R&B performance (Wrong Side of a Love Song)
- **Loreena McKennitt.** Best new age album (Troubadours on the Rhine)
- **Howard Shore.** Best score soundtrack for visual media (Hugo)

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CBS bans breasts, all things fun from Grammys

Dress code. Network proves that it stands for Can't Bare Skin with its new policy for celebrities attending this year's show

MARY ANN GEORGANTOPOULOS
Metro World News

Who would have thought the 55th Annual Grammy Awards would have a strict dress code?

With award show season in full swing, the Grammys is supposed to be the fun show. At the Grammys, it is acceptable for stars to let loose. It's not like at the Oscars where the atmosphere is a little stuffier.

This year, though, musicians might need to rethink their wardrobe. CBS Standard and Practice is instilling a strict no boobs, no butts policy.

This is the email that went out by the S&P department via Deadline:

"CBS Program Practices advises that all talent appearing on camera please adhere to Network policy concerning wardrobe. Please be sure that buttocks and female breasts are adequately covered. Thong-type costumes are problematic. Please avoid exposing bare fleshy under curves of the buttocks and buttock crack. Bare sides or under curvature of the breasts is also problematic. Please avoid sheer see-through clothing that could possibly expose female breast nipples. Please be sure the genital region is adequately covered so that there is no visible 'puffy' bare skin exposure. Please avoid commercial identification of actual brand name products on T-shirts. Foreign language on wardrobe will need to be cleared."

Got that, ladies? No thongs. CBS is taking this situation seriously. They're not even allowing foreign language on clothes unless it's been cleared.

Our strict, private high school was more fun than the Grammys. What can we say, c'est la vie — that's 'such is life' for you, CBS.

Too bootylicious for ya babe

"Please be sure that buttocks and female breasts are adequately covered. Thong-type costumes are problematic. Please avoid exposing bare fleshy under curves of the buttocks and buttock crack."

CBS Standard and Practice department

Metro News, Just For Laughs and Jeremy Hotz Want to Get you Out of Your Misery!

Jeremy Hotz

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Lady Gaga, known for her questionable fashion choices, may have a tough time picking out an outfit this year. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

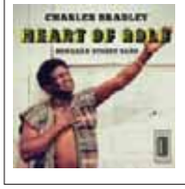
Wild, weird and wonderful tracks

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

A somewhat unusual collection of recommendations this week that are worth passing around work today.

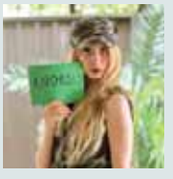
She Must Be One of Us!/Noel Gallagher

There's been a sudden flood of unreleased pre-Flying Birds Noel Gallagher demos. This one sounds like he's channelling Bob Dylan.



Heart of Gold/Charles Bradley

Wherein a former short order cook and James Brown impersonator records a Neil Young song for his debut album — at age 62.



Apple vs. Android Phone War/Meri Amber

Are you an iOS user or do you prefer Android? It was inevitable that someone had to write a song about this most First World of conflicts.

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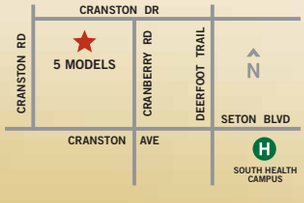

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Dev Patel and Freida Pinto ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Everyday is Valentine's Day for Slumdog couple

Slumdog Millionaire co-stars Dev Patel and Freida Pinto, who have been dating for four years, don't have anything special planned for Valentine's Day this year — or any year — they tell Us Weekly.

"I actually am not a big Valentine's Day supporter," Pinto says. "I don't really celebrate it." Which leaves the perfect opening for Patel to prove what a great boyfriend he is: "Everyday should be a celebration of love," he says. Top that, gentlemen.

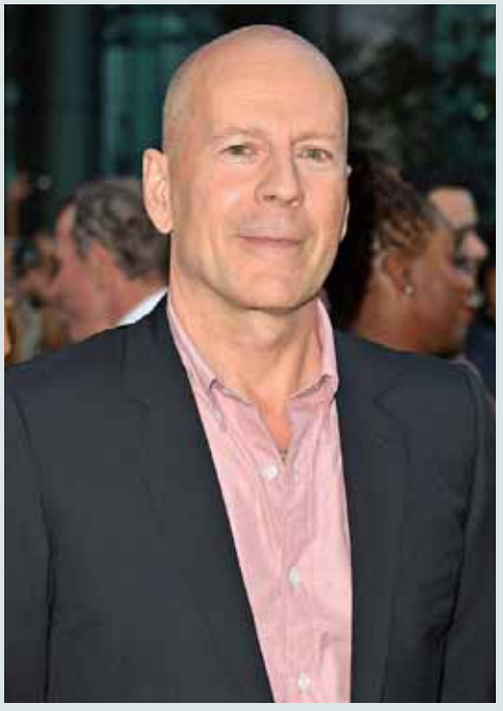
Spielberg got it wrong, Conn. congressman alleges

At least one congressman is challenging Steven Spielberg's fact-checking for Lincoln, arguing that the film's depiction of two Connecticut legislators voting against the amendment to abolish slavery is incorrect, according to the Hartford Courant.

"How could congressmen from Connecticut — a state that supported President Lincoln and lost thousands of her sons fighting against slavery on the Union side of the Civil War — have been on the wrong side of history?" Connecticut Rep. Joe Courtney asks. "The state's good name, I personally feel, was tarnished a bit." Courtney is asking that Spielberg alter the film to reflect this before its DVD release.

Steven Spielberg

The Word



'No one commits a crime because they saw a film,' Willis says

Bruce Willis, star of many bullet-ridden films, thinks it's a mistake to try to link violence in entertainment with real-life shootings like the recent incidents in Aurora, Colo., and Newtown, Conn.

"No one commits a crime because they saw a film. There's nothing to support that," Willis tells the Associated Press. "We're not making movies about people that have gone berserk, or gone nuts. Those kind of movies wouldn't last very long at all." Furthermore, Willis isn't a fan of more gun control legislation.

"I think that you can't start to pick apart anything out of the Bill of Rights without thinking that it's all going to become undone," he says. "If you take one out or change one law, then why wouldn't they take all your rights away from you?" METRO WORLD NEWS

Lindsay Lohan

Lohan keeping calm and carrying on

Despite her ongoing legal troubles and reports of her being difficult to work with, Lindsay Lohan insists she's keeping calm and carrying on. So what's her secret?

"Family," she tells E! News. "You can't get through anything without the family. Family is everything."

Lohan, it should be noted, has had public meltdowns with her mom, Dina Lohan, in recent months, and her dad, Michael Lohan, has been pushing on numerous occasions for an intervention and rehab for his daughter.

Twitter

@mcgregor_ewan
Keep seeing #JacktheGiantSlayer posters everywhere. More than can be said for #TheImpossible. Zero posters there! Shame.

@rosemcgowan
Does anyone know ANYONE with a Nielsen ratings box? Just curious.

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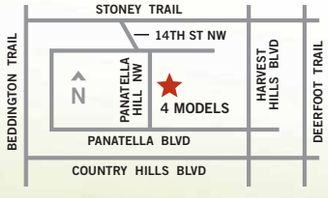

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This one is for all the lovers in the world. Well, at least for all you guys out there who haven't realized that Valentine's Day is this coming Thursday.

Why didn't Cupid just make V-Day the second Sunday of February so we could cook up an easy breakfast in bed for our sweeties accompanied by a glass of bubbly?

That would be too easy. This year, it's a weekday. So, if you're not going out on the town to show your devotion, at least bring her home (or him, girls) a bottle that's the liquid equivalent of an Enrique Iglesias album.

It wouldn't hurt if that vino paired well with a heart-shaped box of bonbons. Chocolate is a palate coating confection, so many wines lose their nuance when paired with it.

Reds work best, with Old Vine Zinfandels, ripe and ready Pinot Noirs and plump, thick-fruited Merlots all having a natural sweetness that gives them the edge if you're trying to match one wine with a variety of chocolate styles.

J. Lohr Estates' 2010 Los Osos Merlot ($19.95 to $22.99) from California's Paso Robles is a chewy burst of deep berry fruit that definitely brings the love.

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This recipe serves two. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Easy romantic dinner frees up time for love

Crab and Hearts of Palm Gratin with Arugula Salad. Make-ahead dish won't keep you in the kitchen

Not planning to go out for Valentine's Day? Time to start planning a special menu for a romantic night in.

This dish is warm, comforting and rich with flavours that say "you're special." It cooks up in a gratin dish, so you can assemble it ahead of time, then when you're ready to eat, just pop it in the oven.

While the gratin bakes, assemble the salad and serve everything together with a crusty baguette.

It's simple, special and perfect for an evening in.

1. Heat the oven to 375 F. Place 2 shallow individual-sized casserole or gratin dishes on a baking sheet.

2. Chop the artichoke hearts and hearts of palm into 1/2-inch pieces. In a medium bowl, gently stir the artichokes and hearts of palm with the thyme, lemon zest, cream, fontina, white pepper and crab. Spoon the mixture into the gratin dishes.

3. In a small bowl, stir together the breadcrumbs, paprika, salt and melted butter. Sprinkle over the gratins. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until bubbling.

4. While the gratins bake, make the salad. In a medium bowl, whisk together the olive oil, vinegar, mustard and maple syrup. Add the arugula, cherries and almonds and gently toss to coat. Serve topped with sea salt and black pepper. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ingredients

For the gratin
- 14-oz each cans artichoke hearts and hearts of palm, drained
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup grated fontina cheese
- 1/4 tsp ground white pepper
- 12 oz lump crab meat
- 1/3 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 tsp sweet paprika
- Pinch of salt
- 1 tbsp butter, melted

For the salad:
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp maple syrup
- 2 cups baby arugula
- 1/4 cup fresh or dried cherries
- 2 tbsp toasted almonds
- Sea salt and ground black pepper

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Julian Brass, Founder of notable.ca, Canada's online source for young professionals

Schmancy

SATURDAY

Experience an entertaining and imaginative evening of art, culture and ideas inspired by Glenbow Museum's current exhibitions and collections. The evening will start with a feature presentation with George Stroumboulopoulos, followed by entertainment, exhibitions, cuisine, cocktails and dancing.

Beach Boys and California Girls

SATURDAY

Feel the good vibrations at the Jack Singer Concert Hall, as the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and Jeans 'n Classics combine for an evening of Beach Boys favourites. Warm up your cold winter night and relive surfer hits like California Girls, Help Me Rhonda, Kokomo and more.

Mardi Gras at Bookers BBQ

FEB. 8, 9, 15, 16

Experience four nights of one of the world's greatest parties at Bookers BBQ Grill and Crab Shack. Each evening will feature events including live music, a southern-style BBQ buffet, crab races and the crowning of the Mardi Gras Queen and King. Don't spare on the beads, feathers and glitter.

findingkind

Womentum presents Finding Kind

SUNDAY

Catch a screening of the documentary Finding Kind at Burnswest Theatre, Fort Calgary (750 9 Ave. SE). This show exposes what is really going on within the "girl world." Watch two girls pack their bags and travel across America in a mini-van with both their mothers to interview hundreds of females around the country. The screening will be followed with a panel discussion that includes Dana Kerford, founder/teacher at GirlPower.

Calgary Boat and Sport Show

UNTIL SUNDAY

If you enjoy all things related to an outdoor lifestyle, then the Calgary Boat and Sport Show at BMO Centre (Stampede Park) is for you. If it floats or is somehow related to fun on the water, it will be found at this show. It will feature boats of every size and description, boat trailers, ski ropes, wakeboards, tubes, personal flotation devices and more from hundreds of exhibitors and retailers.

Friends in Motion – Between Friends

SATURDAY

Between Friends will host the 20th Annual Friends in Motion event Saturday. This team-based event will give participants the opportunity to raise pledges and walk, skate or wheel around the Olympic Oval — every lap translates into an unforgettable summer experience for a person with a disability.

NHL

Canucks tame Wild for 4th straight win

Corey Schneider made 22 saves and Mason Raymond had a power-play goal and an assist in the second period to lead Vancouver past the sputtering Minnesota Wild 4-1 on Thursday night, the fourth straight win for the Canucks.

Niklas Backstrom gave up two scores in each of the first two periods for the Wild, and Josh Harding was in the net for the final frame. Daniel Sedin, Chris Higgins and Jannik Hansen also had goals for the Canucks, whose shutout was spoiled by Tom Gilbert's power-play slapshot with 12:35 left.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Kessel comes alive with game-winner

Phil Kessel scored his first goal of the season late in the third period to lift the Toronto Maple Leafs over the Winnipeg Jets 3-2 on Thursday night.

Tyler Bozak scored shorthanded and Matt Frattin added a goal for the Leafs (6-5-0), who won their second straight of a three-game road trip.

Zach Redmond and Andrew Ladd scored for the Jets (4-5-1), who have lost four of their last five games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Harrison finishes Canes' comeback in overtime

Jay Harrison scored at 2:19 of overtime and Cam Ward made 45 saves Thursday as the Carolina Hurricanes fought back to defeat the Ottawa Senators 3-2. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blair Jones of the Calgary Flames knocks down Columbus Blue Jacket Cody Goloubef on Thursday in Columbus. The Flames won 4-3 in OT. KIRK IRWIN/GETTY IMAGES

Tanguay sparks Flames' OT victory

NHL. Calgary escapes the cellar in the Western Conference leapfrogging Jackets

Alex Tanguay lost his man and found a game-winner.

Tanguay scored on a one-timer 1:07 into overtime to lead the Calgary Flames past the Columbus Blue Jackets 4-3 on Thursday night in a battle of Western Conference cellar-dwellers.

Shortly after Columbus threatened on two shots by Fedor Tyutin, the Flames had an odd-man rush and Jarome Iginla saucered a cross-ice assist to Tanguay, who unloaded from the right dot.

Before that, however, Tanguay said he was almost the goat. He credited little-used goaltender Leland Irving, who picked up only his second career victory, for covering for him.

"Actually, it all started with Leland," Tanguay said with a chuckle. "I lost my guy in the defensive zone and they made a great play and Leland made a stop. Then (T.J.) Brodie started the play off in the corner, beat one of their guys and we were off on a 3-on-2."

Roman Cervenka, Mikael Backlund and Lee Stempniak also scored for the Flames, who won their second in a row.

On Thursday

4	3
Flames	Blue Jackets

Tanguay extended his points streak to seven games in a row, during which he has four goals and five assists.

The teams came into the game with the fewest points in the Western Conference — Calgary (2-3-2) was last with six and Columbus (3-6-1) was 14th with seven.

But the Flames, unlike the Blue Jackets, feel like they're shaking off their slow start.

"A gutsy effort, that's the first thing I'm going to say," coach Bob Hartley said. "We scored the first goal and they came right back. We didn't really get the first period that we wanted, but the second and third periods, we owned the puck. We made some great plays — like a great penalty kill at the end of (regulation). And then we got the winner with Tang."

Mark Letestu had a goal and two assists for the first three-point game of his 145-game career, while Vinny Prospal had a goal and an assist, and Matt Calvert also scored for the Blue Jackets. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Olympics

Price of ski jump could cost official his job

A year before the 2014 Winter Olympics are to begin, President Vladimir Putin has demanded that a senior member of the Russian Olympic Committee be fired, apparently due to cost overruns in host city Sochi — a demand certain to be fulfilled.

The current price tag for the Sochi Games is $51 billion US, which would make them the most expensive games in the history of the Olympics.

The official facing dismissal, Akmet Bilalov, had a company that was building the ski jump and its adjacent facilities before selling its stake to state-owned Sberbank last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Skiing

Guay gives course the thumbs-down

Defending champion Erik Guay of Canada criticized the men's downhill course at the world ski championships in Schladming, Austria, after training on Thursday, calling one of the jumps "way too big."

Guay said he hurt his back while landing after the 30-metre jump.

"That's ridiculous," he said. "Any course you should be able to push in the first training run and not have to worry about injuries like that."

The height of the jump was causing problems because racers land on a flat part of the slope, the skier said. FIS men's race director Guenter Hujara said course workers would try to slightly lower the jump before Friday's second training. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The sun shines over the ski stadium during the FIS Cross-Country World Cup in Sochi, Russia, on Feb. 3. The Sochi Olympics are a year away and the weather may be the biggest hurdle to overcome for Russia to claim a success story. IGOR YAKUNIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A warm welcome awaits Olympians

Countdown to Sochi. Weather could prove a stumbling block at next Winter Games

Quoted

"They'll be ... doing everything possible to make it into a winter wonderland."

Environment Canada's senior climatologist David Phillips on the Sochi Winter Games

The Sochi Olympics are a year away and already there are worries about Circassian Muslim unrest, transportation headaches and even earthquakes.

But the weather may be the biggest hurdle to overcome for Russia to claim a success story.

If you thought the 2010 Vancouver Games had issues, just wait.

"In Canada, if somebody said, 'Pick the least likely place for a Winter Games,' I would have picked Vancouver and, in Russia, I would have picked Sochi," says Environment Canada's senior climatologist, David Phillips.

"I think we think we can fool Mother Nature sometimes."

Sochi was Joseph Stalin's cottage retreat, where he had his favourite "dacha" or summer house, a bit of a misnomer since it's as big as some modest resort hotels. You can still take a tour.

Think of it as Russia's Florida, festooned with palm trees and located on the northeastern coast of the Black Sea, just a little north of Turkey and northeast of Greece. The climate is classified as subtropical.

Phillips looked at data both for Sochi and the ski resort of Krasnaya Polyana and compared them with Vancouver and Whistler.

The city will be the site of the "coastal cluster," as organizers have dubbed it, for arena-based sports, while the "mountain cluster" will host skiing, snowboarding and bobsledding events. Each will have its own Olympic village.

"In Sochi you can enjoy a warm southern sea as well as high, snow-covered mountains," organizers boast.

It can snow in Sochi proper but it's not exactly a regular occurrence, as average daytime temperatures, Phillips says, are in the 9 C range in February. The record though is about 24 C.

That's even warmer than Vancouver, which has an average daytime temperature of 8 C in February, and had more than its share of weather-related problems at the last Winter Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympics. Podborski keen to see record broken

If and when Erik Guay breaks Steve Podborski's long-standing record for World Cup podium finishes, Podborski will be the first to applaud the younger skier.

Best known as a former member of the Crazy Canucks, Podborski is also a longtime sport volunteer and Canada's chef de mission for the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

His mission, he said, is to make Canadian athletes better than his generation was — even if that means seeing his own name erased from Canada's record books.

"I want our guys to be better than we were. And so yes, I want Erik to beat me, I want him to beat all my records, I want him to keep on going and get them all knocked off ... because that's what's supposed to happen," Podborski said on Thursday from Sochi.

Steve Podborski is Canada's new chef de mission for the 2014 Sochi Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Podborski, 55, stood on the World Cup ski podium 20 times, culminating in a victory in 1984. Guay, a native of Mont-Tremblant, Que., has climbed it 19 times, most recently earning a silver in the downhill at Kitzbuehel, Austria, on Jan. 26. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Dallas company sues Lance Armstrong to recover $12M

Cycling. Lawsuit notes that cyclist repeatedly lied under oath

A Dallas promotions company sued Lance Armstrong on Thursday, demanding he repay $12 million US in bonuses and fees it paid him for winning the Tour de France.

SCA Promotions had tried in a 2005 legal dispute over the bonuses to prove Armstrong cheated to win before it ultimately settled and paid him.

Armstrong recently acknowledged using performance-enhancing drugs after the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency in 2012 detailed a sophisticated doping program taking place within his teams. Armstrong was stripped of his seven Tour de France victories and given a lifetime ban from sports.

Armstrong and agent Bill Stapleton, the company contends in its lawsuit, lied and conspired to cheat SCA out of millions. The lawsuit notes that

Lance Armstrong
OPRAH WINFREY NETWORK/GETTY IMAGES

Armstrong repeatedly testified under oath in the 2005 dispute that he did not use steroids, other drugs or blood-doping methods to win, all of which he now admits to doing.

"It is time now for Mr. Armstrong to face the consequences of his actions," said the lawsuit, which demands a jury trial. "He admits he doped, he admits he bullied people, he admits he lied."

Armstrong won the Tour de France every year from 1999 to 2005. The SCA lawsuit seeks to recover $9.5 million in bonus money for winning the race from 2002-04 and another $2.5 million paid to Armstrong for other costs and fees.

The lawsuit names Armstrong, Stapleton and Tailwind Sports, Inc., the team's management entity, as defendants.

An Armstrong spokesman referred to the original settlement signed in February 2006 by SCA president Robert Hamman and Stapleton, both for himself and Armstrong, that states, "No party may challenge, appeal or attempt to set aside" the agreement, which is "fully and forever binding."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Extended deadline

USADA chief executive Travis Tygart said Wednesday the agency has been in contact with Armstrong and is giving him more time to decide if he wants to co-operate with its investigators.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	11	8	3	0	39	26	16
New Jersey	10	6	1	3	27	22	15
NY Rangers	10	5	5	0	24	26	10
NY Islanders	10	4	5	1	30	34	9
Philadelphia	11	4	6	1	25	30	9

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	9	7	1	1	26	20	15
Ottawa	11	6	3	2	31	22	14
Montreal	10	6	3	1	31	24	13
Toronto	11	6	5	0	28	31	12
Buffalo	11	4	6	1	35	41	9

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Tampa Bay	10	6	4	0	42	27	12
Carolina	9	5	4	0	25	26	10
Winnipeg	10	4	5	1	29	37	9
Florida	10	4	5	1	25	35	9
Washington	11	2	8	1	25	41	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	11	9	0	2	39	25	20
Nashville	10	5	2	3	23	21	13
St. Louis	10	6	4	0	33	30	12
Detroit	10	5	4	1	28	29	11
Columbus	11	3	6	2	23	36	8

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Vancouver	10	6	2	2	28	23	14
Edmonton	10	4	3	3	24	27	11
Minnesota	10	4	5	1	22	28	9
Calgary	8	3	3	2	24	28	8
Colorado	10	4	6	0	21	26	8

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	9	7	1	1	32	23	15
San Jose	10	7	2	1	34	21	15
Dallas	11	5	5	1	23	27	11
Phoenix	11	4	5	2	31	33	10
Los Angeles	9	3	4	2	20	28	8

Note: A team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

Thursday's results
Florida 3 Philadelphia 2 (SO)
Pittsburgh 5 Washington 2
New Jersey 4 Tampa Bay 2
Calgary 4 Columbus 3 (OT)
NY Rangers 4 NY Islanders 1
Buffalo 5 Montreal 4 (SO)
Carolina 3 Ottawa 2 (OT)
Toronto 3 Winnipeg 2
Nashville 3 Los Angeles 0
Detroit 5 St. Louis 1
Vancouver 4 Minnesota 1
Chicago 6 Phoenix 2

Wednesday's results
Boston 2 Montreal 1
Anaheim 3 Colorado 0
Dallas 3 Edmonton 2 (OT)

Friday's games

All Times Eastern
Anaheim at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday's games
Carolina at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Boston, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at New Jersey, 1 p.m.
Winnipeg at Ottawa, 2 p.m.
Edmonton at Detroit, 2 p.m.
Phoenix at San Jose, 4 p.m.
Buffalo at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

MAPLE LEAFS 3, JETS 2

First Period — No Scoring
Penalties — Phaneuf Tor (Hooking) 3:53, McLaren Tor (Fighting) 14:26, Thorburn Win (Fighting) 14:26, Kane Win (Concealing puck) 16:10, van Riemsdyk Tor (Concealing puck) 17:25.
Second Period
1. Winnipeg, Redmond 1 (Little, Enstrom) 3:32 (SH)
2. Toronto, Bozak 3 (Unassisted) 6:21 (SH)
Penalties — Antropov Win (Cross-checking) 2:40, Orr Tor (Roughing) 5:50, Kulemin Tor (Interference) 15:08.
Third Period
3. Winnipeg, Ladd 4 (Clitsome, Little) 3:46
4. Toronto, Frattin 6 (Franson, Kadri) 14:58
5. Toronto, Kessel 1 (Bozak) 15:52 (PP)
Penalties — Stuart Win (Holding) 6:30, Ponikarovsky Win (Holding) 15:24.
Shots

Toronto	5	7	6—18
Winnipeg	7	9	9—25

Goal — Toronto: Reimer (W, 4-3-0). Winnipeg: Pavelec (L, 3-5-1).
Power plays (goal-chances) — Toronto: 1-4. Winnipeg: 0-4.
Referees — Ghislain Hebert, Eric Furlatt.
Linesmen — Darren Gibbs, Thor Nelson.
Att. — 15,004 (MTS Centre).

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	32	14	.696	—
New York	31	16	.660	11/2
Indiana	31	19	.620	3
Chicago	29	19	.604	4
Brooklyn	29	20	.592	41/2
Atlanta	27	21	.563	6
Boston	26	23	.531	71/2
Milwaukee	25	23	.521	8
Philadelphia	21	27	.438	12
Detroit	18	32	.360	16
Toronto	17	32	.347	161/2
Cleveland	15	34	.306	181/2
Orlando	14	35	.286	191/2
Washington	13	35	.271	20
Charlotte	11	37	.229	22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	39	11	.780	—
Oklahoma City	37	12	.755	11/2
L.A. Clippers	35	16	.686	41/2
Denver	31	18	.633	71/2
Memphis	30	18	.625	8
Golden State	30	19	.612	81/2
Utah	28	22	.560	11
Houston	27	24	.529	121/2
Portland	25	24	.510	131/2
L.A. Lakers	23	27	.460	16
Dallas	21	28	.429	171/2
Minnesota	18	28	.391	19
Phoenix	17	33	.340	22
Sacramento	17	33	.340	22
New Orleans	16	33	.327	221/2

Note: division leaders ranked in top three positions regardless of winning percentage.

Thursday's results
Boston 116 L.A. Lakers 95
Chicago at Denver

Friday's games

All Times Eastern
L.A. Lakers at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at Washington, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Miami, 8 p.m.
New York at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Portland at Houston, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's games
Denver at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
It's OK to get angry if someone has done you wrong but don't take it too far and turn it into a vendetta. It may be frustrating that you can't seem to change their ways but that's just the way it is. Live with it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Read between the lines if you want to find out what is really going on. Once you have cracked the code, you can use what you learn to strengthen your own position. Are we talking blackmail here? Maybe!

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Your intuition is trying to tell you something important but the rational part of your mind refuses to accept it. Turn your logic circuits off for a bit and let the deeper part of your nature come through.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Be nice to partners and loved ones today because you will need their assistance over the weekend. Think before you speak or act. Try to see what effect your words might have. It never hurts to look ahead.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The planets will expand your horizons today and help you find interesting things in even the most tedious of tasks. It's not what you do that matters so much as the attitude you choose to take while doing it.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today's Mars-Mercury link in your opposite sign may make it seem as if the world is against you but you know it's not true. End this week and start the next in the same fashion: Don't take anything too seriously.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will be rather suspicious as to other people's motives today, to the extent that you turn down their offers of assistance. Later on, you may look back and wish you had not been quite so distrustful.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Certain people need reminding that you are a free individual and not a servant to be used as they see fit. If your present work environment does not suit you, it's time to change it.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Put your own needs first and ignore those who say you are being selfish. Maybe you are but there were plenty of times in the past when you sacrificed your own desires to help other people. Remind them of that.

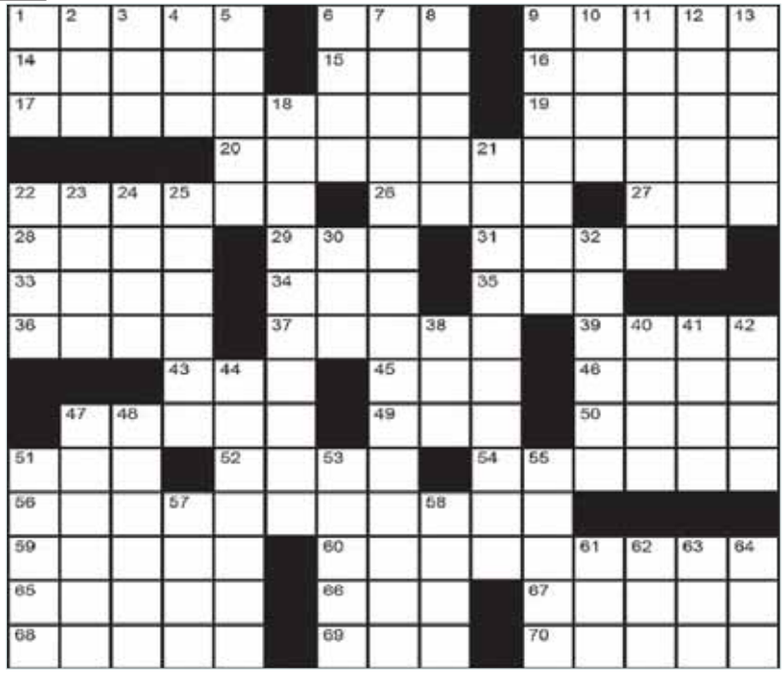
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Try not to be suspicious if a rival pays you a compliment. According to the planets, they are making a genuine attempt to bury the hatchet. Respond in kind and show them you appreciate the effort.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you rely on what other people tell you today, chances are you will head off in completely the wrong direction. The words people use are important, of course, but trust your intuition if it tells you something different.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Mars in your sign makes you determined to get the most out of every minute, and that's good, but don't throw yourself blindly at every challenge that comes along. Your time and energy are precious, so use them wisely. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

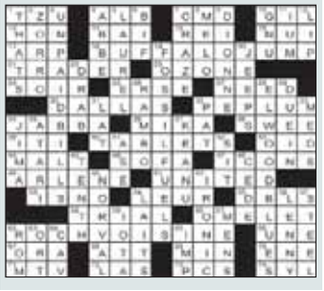
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. UK's Oscar equivalent
6. Shopping or To-Do, e.g.
9. Hairstylist's tools
14. "Let __ __!" (Start!)
15. News agcy.
16. Aunt's hubby, in Quebec
17. Quebec City founder in 1608, Samuel de __
19. "__ Work It Out" by The Beatles: 2 wds.
20. The __ (North-of-Montreal skiing region)
22. Alex of "Jeopardy!"
26. Prefix with 'logical'
27. Pres. Eisenhower
28. Annoy
29. 'Filb' finisher (Nut)
31. Ms. Stefani, and others
33. Role in "The Producers" (2005)
34. Zodiac's roarer
35. 'Pepper' add-on (Pizza topping)
36. Mountain stat.
37. Grams __ __ (Nutritional info)
39. Scientology founder, _. __ Hubbard
43. Hosp. area
45. Numerical prefix
46. Overseas currency
47. Seaweed-wrapped appetizer
49. Bit of Beatles: "Isn't __ _ bit like..."
50. 'Refer' suffix
51. Vienna is its cap.
52. "_ __ dead people." (#13-Down line)
54. Tiger type
56. "Born to Be Wild" band
59. Elvis line: "We're caught in _ __..."
60. 1991 Nirvana album
65. France's longest river
66. "This ___ surprise!"
67. __ space
68. Concluded
69. Cardinals player's baseball cap letters
70. Russian negativess

Down
1. Ballpoint brand
2. Sports fig.
3. Lobster __ Diavolo (Seafood dish with pasta)
4. Director Mr. Burton
5. Crunchy fruit
6. Hawaiian feast
7. "And If Venice Is Sinking" band: 4 wds.
8. Like a fork
9. Calgary's nickname
10. "Dedicated to the __ _ Love" by The Shirelles
11. Canadian frozen fries maker
12. Spaces
13. "The Sixth __" (1999)
18. Banff National Park sight: 2 wds.
21. On the table, as a deal
22. Genuine
23. Streamlet
24. Fashion magazine
25. "__ and Butt-Head"
30. NHL official
32. '80s hit: "Come On __"
38. I am. You __.
40. Ladder step
41. Whale movie
42. Liam's Oasis brother
44. Nicked, as nail polish
47. Canadian real estate company
48. Logging-on name, __ _ _
51. Make _ __ (Do store business)
53. Heath's "Brokeback Mountain" (2005) role
55. Actor Zac
57. Canadian actress Jessica of "Mad Men"
58. Face shape
61. Very: Spanish
62. 'Meteor' suffix
63. Hair holder
64. Li'l physicians

Yesterday's Crossword

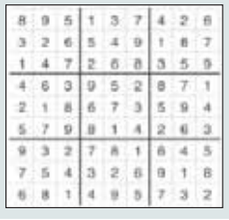


Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	4	3					8	
6					2		4	
5			1		9	7		
	9			1		5		2
8		6		7			1	
		4	8		3			1
	6		7					3
	3					9	5	

Yesterday's Sudoku



Weather

TODAY — MAX: -1° MIN: -5°
SATURDAY — MAX: -2° MIN: -7°
SUNDAY — MAX: -4° MIN: -11°

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GOD'S PROMISES ARE REAL

Are you weak and failing in your strength? Are you considering giving up the hope? The economic condition may be tough and things may not go the direction you want them. Remember that tough time never last but tough people do. Just trust in the Lord because, "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."(Isaiah 40: 29-31). Put all your trust in the Lord because He is equal to the task.

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GOD'S PROMISE
God will keep you secure. Those who hate you will stay far away. You will live in peace, and terror will not come near you.
(Isaiah 54:14)
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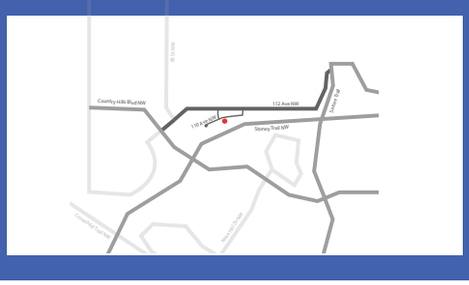

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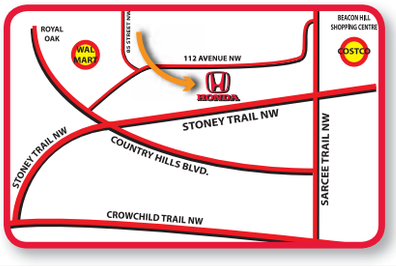

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